ベルセルク

8

三浦建太郎

KENTARO MIURA

ベルセルク

BERSERK®

BY

KENTARO MIURA

三浦建太郎

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English-language version produced by
DARK HORSE COMICS and DIGITAL MANGA PUBLISHING.

BERSERK vol. 8 by KENTARO MIURA

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Dark Horse Manga
A division of Dark Horse Comics, Inc.
10956 SE Main Street
Milwaukie OR 97222

DarkHorse.com

To find a comics shop in your area, call the Comic Shop Locator Service toll-free at 1-888-266-4226

First edition: July 2005

ISBN 978-1-59307-329-9

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Printed in the United States of America

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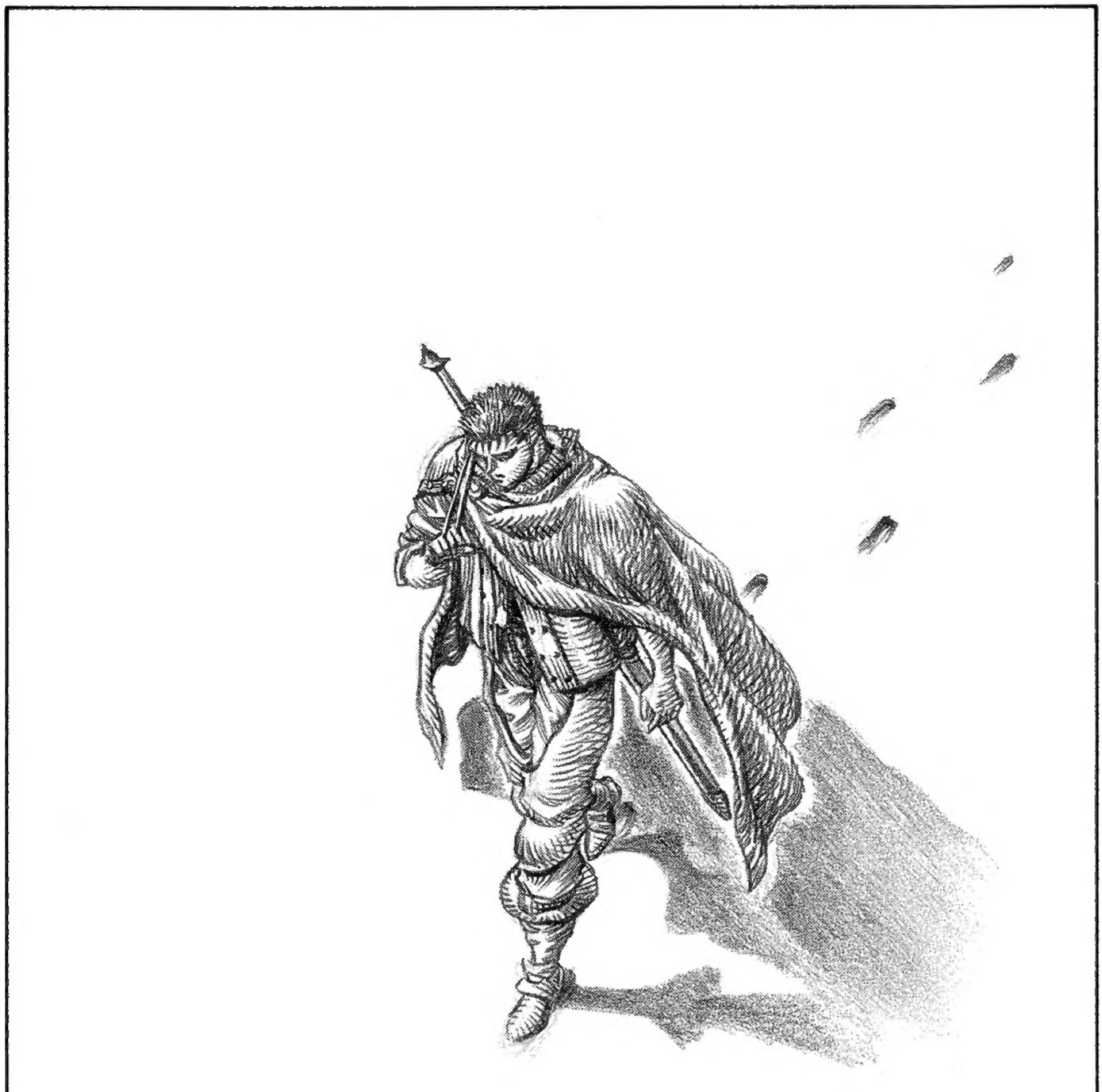

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ベルセルク

ドルドレイ攻略戦(5)

THE BATTLE FOR DOLDREY CHAPTER 5

HE'S DONE IT!!

OHH...!!

...IT'S LOOKIN' BAD!!

IT...

I'M SCREWED!!

I WAS CARELESS! DAMN IT!!

MY SWORD WAS MESSED UP FROM FIGHTING THOSE HUNDRED MEN!!

ドオオオ…オ…オ…

WHAT NOW?!

…
…

TIME'S UP!!

RAIDERS CAPTAIN!!

ｺﾞｺﾞｺﾞ…

ｺﾞｺﾞｺﾞｺﾞｺﾞｺﾞ

ｶﾞｼｬﾝ

ｶﾞｼｬﾝ

ｶﾞｼｬﾝ

DON'T STRUGGLE, IT'S USELESS!!

IF YOU OBEY ME AND THROW DOWN YOUR SWORD, I WOULDN'T BE OPPOSED TO LETTING YOU LIVE AS MY OWN PERSONAL TOY...!!

EVEN IF YOU WISH TO FIGHT, CAN YOU EVEN MOVE FREELY?!

.....
.....

IF YOU REFUSE ...!!

SIS!!

HAIYAAAA!!

TROUBLE ...

URYAA!

STAAAB!! STAB STAB STAB STAB STAB STAB!

IF I MOVE AROUND, THE DRUG.....

.....!!

GET THE HELL OUTTA MY WAY!!

BIG SIS!!

血の儀式 Hell

-HAHH-

-HAHH-

THERE'S NOWHERE LEFT TO RUN!!

WHAT WILL YOU DO?!

GRRRR

I THINK YOU CAN EXPECT TO *LOSE A LIMB* OR TWO!!

LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO MY FACE!!

THEN YOU CAN TAKE YOUR TIME DECIDING WHETHER YOU'LL BE MY CAPTIVE OR DIE IN THIS PLACE!!

LET'S START BELOW THE WAIST!!

OH, NO!

WHAAAT ?!

KLANG

...IMPOSS-IBLE...!!

IM...

...BUT YOU'RE ALSO TOTAL SWINE.

YOU WERE INTER-ESTING ENOUGH ...

パッカン

HEH?

HEH?

THE REST ARE LITTLE FISH!! ROUT THEM!!

ALRIGHT!!

.....
..!!

ｷﾀｰ!!

EN GARDE!!

PROTECT THE CAPTAIN!!

ガ-ガ-ガ-ガ-ガ-

THERE'S NOTHIN' YOU CAN DO, IDIOTS!!

GET OUTTA THERE!!

NUI-SAN-CES!!

FLICK

FLICK

FLICK

FLICK

FLICK

FLICK

LUNGH
.....
...!!
EAT.
EAT.
EAT.

GUTS ...!!

I CAN'T STOP HIS POLE-AXE WITH A PUNY KNIFE LIKE THIS!!

THIS AIN'T GOOD!!

SON OF A BITCH!!

?!

ギィ.

WHA?!

GUTS !!

TAKE UP THAT SWORD!!

HN?!

¡PUM!
¡PUM!
¡PUM!

ガッ
ガッ
ドッ
シャアア

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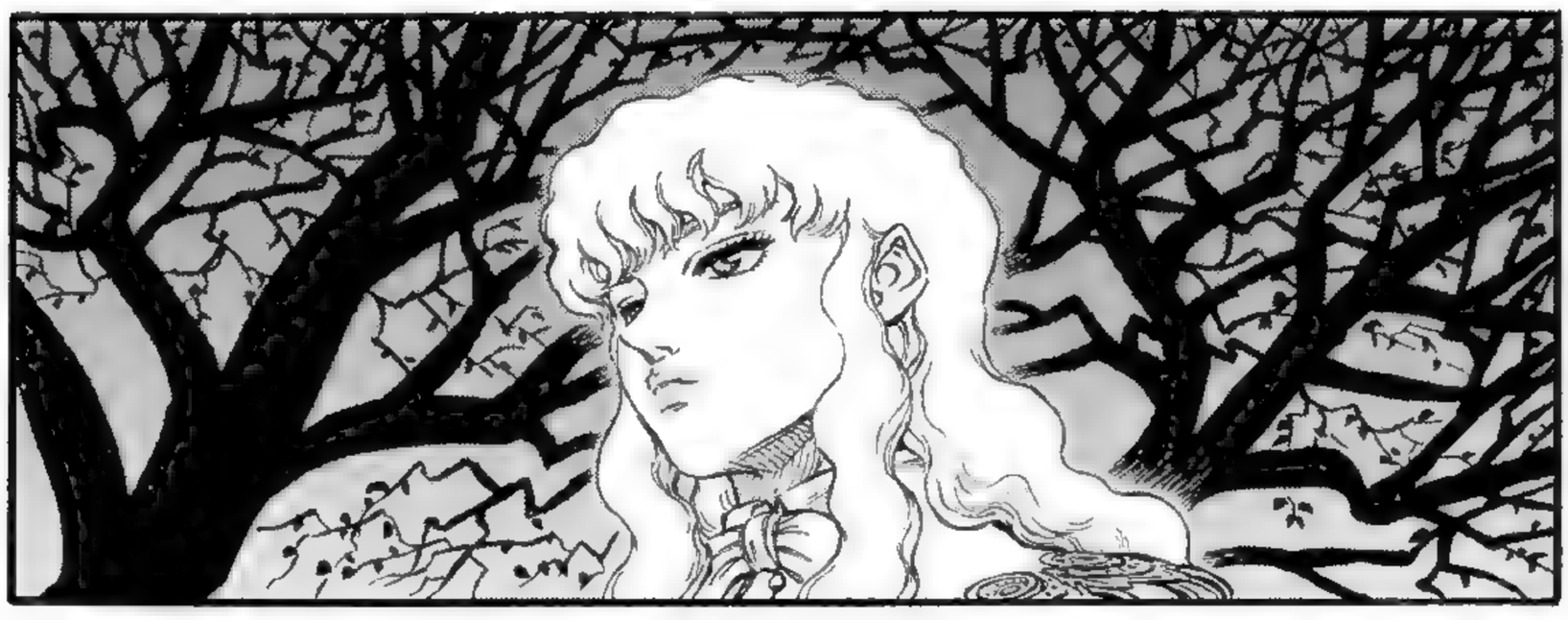
オオ・オオオ・

THE BATTLE FOR DOLDREY (5): END



IS...

...IS THAT?!

IT CAN'T BE...!!

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未来未来未来

ベルセルク

THE BATTLE FOR DOLDREY CHAPTER 6

ドルドレイ攻略戦(6)

ザッ

ザッ

ザッ

WHAT HAPPENED...?!

TH-THE ENEMY'S STANDARD?!

B-BUT HOW?!

DON'T YOU FOOLS GET IT YET?!

HAVE WE REALLY LOST?!

W-WE LOST ...?!

IT MEANS YOU ALL LOST!!!

YOUR LEADER'S DEAD!! IT'S PLAIN AS DAY THE FORTRESS HAS FALLEN!!

CRY OUT!!

CRY FOR VICTORY!!

...NO WAY?!

NO...

ドドド

...WE'LL BE KILLED!!

WE...

AT THIS... AT THIS RATE...

IT'S NO USE.

ゴゴゴ

HEEEE ...

HEE!

オタ・オタ・

!

HAHA ...

AH...

IT'S BEEN QUITE SOME TIME, LORD GENNON.

...GRIFFITH !!

G...

ドドド

WON'T YOU *GRANT* THE WISH OF THE ONE YOU SHARED IT WITH?

SURELY YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN THAT NIGHT WE HAD TOGETHER?

IT WAS JUST ONE NIGHT, BUT *OH!*... HOW I'VE *YEARNED* FOR THAT AGAIN.

...WOULD BY ANY MEANS EVEN SO MUCH AS *WOUND* YOU IN THIS BATTLE...

I MADE SURE THAT NONE OF MY MEN ...

I TOOK GREAT PAINS TO SEE IT THROUGH!

...

...RESENT ME, DO YOU...?

YOU DON'T ...

I DO NOT RESENT YOU. EXCEL-LENCY.

...

...

Y-YOU DON'T...?

...
...

HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE *QUITE* BEYOND REASON TO SAY THAT I'VE YEARNED FOR YOU.

OHH... THEN...

I SIMPLY HAVE *NO* EMOTIONAL INTEREST IN YOU AT ALL.

YOU WERE LIKE A STONE LYING BY THE SIDE OF THE PATH I WALK...

THAT...

..AND *NOTHING* MORE.

I JUST TOOK THE LIBERTY OF *USING* YOU WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY APPEARED.

RESENTMENT, ENDEARMENT...

...NOTHING.

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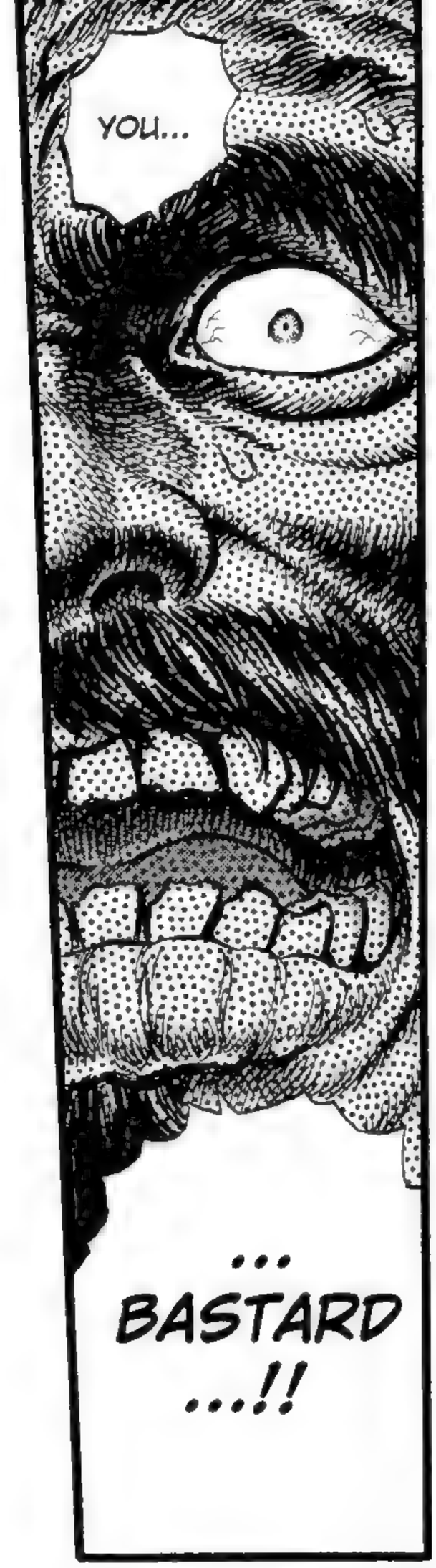
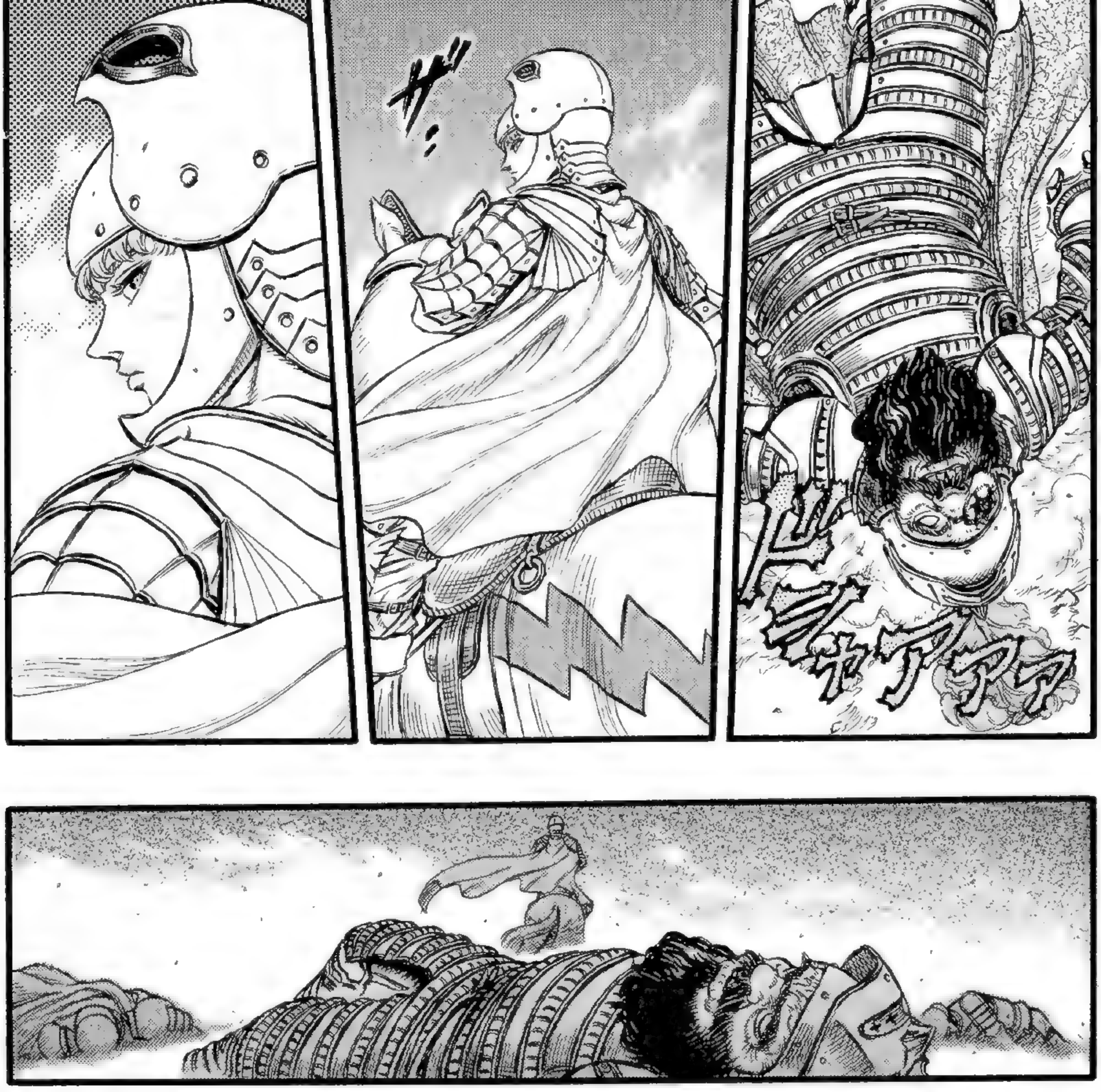

YOU...
...
BASTARD
...!!

...WOULD PROVE SLIGHTLY INCONVEN-IENT.
...HAVING YOUR LOOSE TONGUE SPREAD PETTY *RUMORS* ABOUT ME...
AL-THOUGH ...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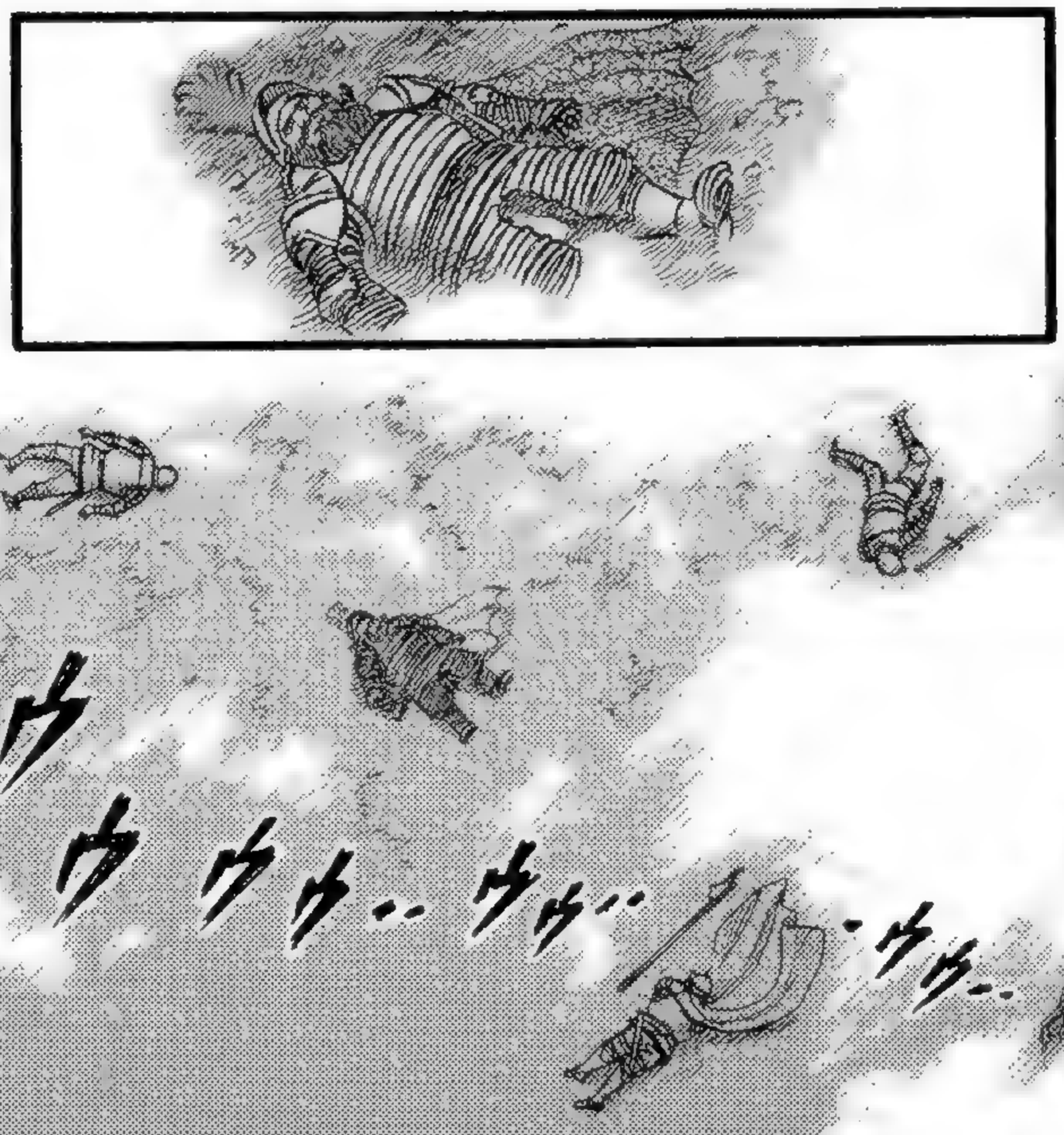
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オ オオ… オオ…
オオ…

YEAHHH! WE REALLY STUCK IT TO 'EM GOOD!!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT WORKED OUT *THIS* WELL!!

THE ENEMY ALL SCATTERED AND RAN!!

LOOKS LIKE THINGS ARE JUST ABOUT WRAPPED UP!!

.....
.....
.....

YEAH, I'M FEELING A LITTLE BETTER...

ARE YOU OKAY, SIS?

DON'T MIND ME...YOU GUYS GO SEE IF ANY ENEMIES REMAIN IN THE FORTRESS.

YES, MA'AM.

HEY!! COME ON, WORK TIME!!

YO.

TOUGH DAY.

WHAT'S WRONG?

!

EH, IT'S JUST A SCRATCH.

COULD YOU GIVE ME A HAND?

...OR THAT'S WHAT I'D LIKE TO SAY.

HEY?
BREATH-TAKING...
...
...

THAT HE'S SOMEHOW OUT OF REACH...

THAT HE EXISTS SOMEWHERE FAR AWAY...

AND IT *HURTS.*

IT'S STRANGE ...

ACT-UALLY ...

I ALWAYS THINK THIS...

...WHEN THE BATTLE IS OVER AND GRIFFITH IS SURROUNDED BY EVERYONE CHEERING IN VICTORY...

ガアアアーーー

YOW ...!!

EH?

THAT AIN'T THE CASE.....

YOU'LL NEVER GET ANY-WHERE JUST STANDIN' HERE WATCHIN' HIM.

...HEY.

H...

LET'S GO.

GO TO MEET YOUR LEADER.

YEAH.

...
COULDN'T BE.

WOOP!

WAH!
S-
STOP
THAT!

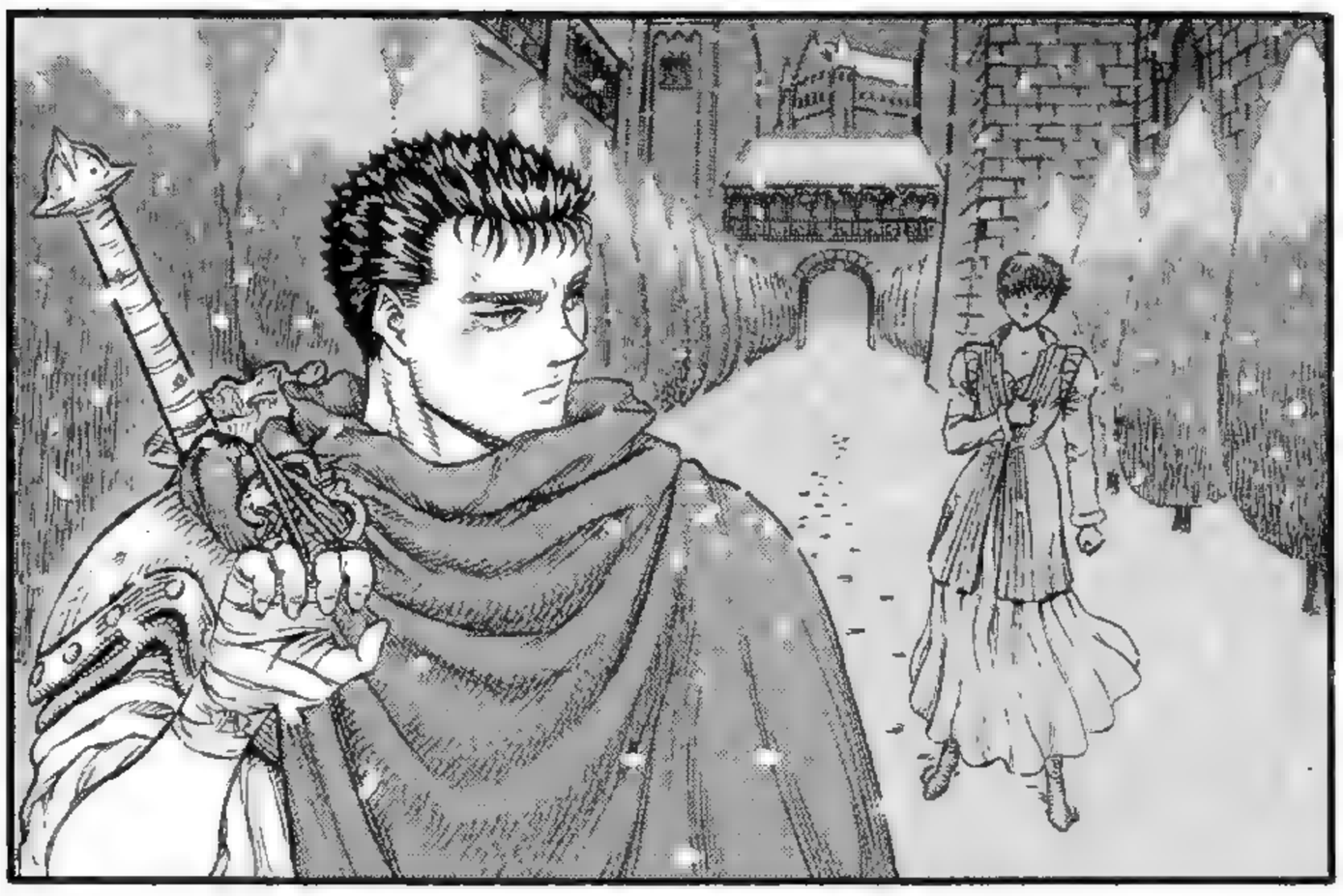
オオ、オ…オオ、

……
……

.....
.....

THE ECLIPSE WILL SOON COME...

AND THE DEMON ADVENT APPROACHES .....



TRIUMPHANT
RETURN

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凱旋

HIS AMBITION IS *OUTRAGEOUS!* HEEDLESS OF HIS OWN SOCIAL STANDING... *UNPARALLELED IMPUDENCE!*

GRIFFITH HAS DONE *VERY WELL* FOR HIMSELF THESE YEARS SINCE HE APPEARED IN *MIDLAND.*

THE WAR, WHICH HAS GONE ON SO LONG, WILL END FOR NOW.

DOLDREY HAS FALLEN.

IT'S CERTAIN THAT HE WILL TRY TO *ASSERT* HIMSELF EVEN WITHIN OUR KINGDOM'S *GOVERNMENT!*

BUT HIS POPULARITY AMONGST THE PEOPLE THESE DAYS IS *TREMENDOUS!*

EVEN HIS *MAJESTY* SEEMS TO HAVE AN EXTREME AMOUNT OF CONFIDENCE IN HIM!

HOW COULD SOME *UPSTART KNIGHT* WHO KNOWS NOTHING BUT COMBAT BE ABLE TO GOVERN ANYTHING?!

HIS MAJESTY WILL ALSO GRANT THE *WHITE TITLE*, THE *SUPREME RANK OF THE MIDLAND ARMY* SHARED BY THE *WHITE TIGERS* AND *WHITE DRAGONS*, TO HIM AND HIS BAND...

ACCORDING TO INFORMATION I HAVE OBTAINED, DUE TO THE BAND OF THE HAWK'S SUCCESS IN CAPTURING DOLDREY, HIS MAJESTY PLANS TO *GRANT* GRIFFITH THE POSITION OF *GENERAL*.

INDEED?!

L...

...LUDI-CROUS !!

IN THAT CASE, HIS POLITICAL AUTHORITY WILL INEVITABLY SEE SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH!

HOW COULD THIS BE?!

THIS MEANS AFTER ALL...

IT IS FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE.

YES...

IS... IS THAT *CREDIBLE*, MINISTER?!

...TO SURVIVE WITHIN THE CASTLE.

...THAT HE IS A BIT *TOO* BEREFT OF DISCRETION...

!

BY WHAT MEANS SHALL WE...?

BUT, MINISTER FOSS...

YOU *NEEDN'T* WORRY. EVEN IF A MISTAKE IS MADE, SUCH A THING WOULD *NEVER* HAPPEN. FIRST OFF, WE WILL NOT HAVE ANY DIRECT INVOLVEMENT.

B-BUT...

WHAT OF THE OFF CHANCE OUR SCHEME COMES TO LIGHT?

B-BUT IS THIS REALLY *SAFE?*

HAVE NO FEAR.

ANTIARIS.

AN INSTANTLY DEADLY *POISON.* WE WILL PUT THIS IN HIS GOBLET WHILE HE ENJOYS THE VICTORY CELEBRATION.

EVEN IF WHAT YOU SUGGEST WERE TO HAPPEN,

I PROMISE IT.

I WOULD SEE IT SETTLED PRIVATELY.

オオ。

OH MY...

WITH AN ASSURANCE SUCH AS THAT FROM THE *QUEEN*, WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR.

FOR THE SAKE OF THE KINGDOM, AND FOR ALL THAT IS *JUST!*

I AM NOT ABOUT TO ALLOW THE LONG AND GLORIOUS HISTORY OF MIDLAND'S RULE TO BE TRAMPLED UPON BY THIS LOWLY COMMONER FROM WHO KNOWS WHERE!

TAKE HEED, ALL OF YOU. WHILE THIS PLOT WILL ENSURE HEREAFTER THAT THE SECURITY OF YOUR SOCIAL STANDINGS WILL NO LONGER BE *THREATENED* BY THIS MAN...

...IT ALSO EXISTS IN ORDER TO PLUCK THIS PARASITE, WHO WOULD EVENTUALLY *INFECT* EVEN THE RULE OF OUR KINGDOM, FROM THE LION'S BODY BEFORE THE DISEASE SPREADS.

IT WAS WISE OF ME TO PLANT THE IDEA THAT GENERAL JULIUS' DEATH WAS A PLOT DESIGNED BY GRIFFITH. BUT TO THINK THAT SHE WOULD GO SO FAR AS TO VOLUNTEER TO LEAD THIS PLAN...

I WAS AWARE OF THE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION THAT THE QUEEN AND GENERAL JULIUS WERE INVOLVED IN A LOVE AFFAIR UNBEKNOWNST TO HIS MAJESTY.

NATURALLY YOU ARE CORRECT.

WE TOO VALUE PATRIOTISM ABOVE ALL.

...

...

JULIUS.....

THEREFORE AS ONE MAN, HE HAD NO TIME TO GIVE TO HIS FAMILY.

THE BURDEN OF RULING THE KINGDOM MUST WEIGH HEAVILY UPON HIM...

HIS MAJESTY MADE A GOOD KING BUT NOT A GOOD HUSBAND.

AS ALL HAD HOPED, UNDER THE GUISE OF A POLITICAL MARRIAGE, I CONVENIENTLY ENTERED THIS KINGDOM AS THE QUEEN OF MIDLAND RATHER THAN THE KING'S WIFE. THAT HAS BEEN MY DISPOSITION TOWARDS MY WEAK-LOVING HUSBAND.

I HAVE, IN THE SAME WAY PUBLICLY, FAITHFULLY FULFILLED MY ROLE AS HIS MAJESTY'S QUEEN THESE TEN-ODD YEARS.

NO, PERHAPS THAT WAS AN ESCAPE FROM SORROW OVER THE DEATH OF THE FORMER QUEEN, SAID TO BE THE ONE AND ONLY WOMAN HE LOVED.....

...AS A LONE WOMAN IN AN UNKNOWN FOREIGN LAND.

THESE STONE WALLS AND MARBLE FLOORS WERE TOO COLD FOR ME TO ENDURE...

THE REASON I WOULD GIVE MY BODY TO HIM WAS NOT LOVE.

I WANTED TO SUCCUMB TO A SIMPLE BURNING DESIRE.

MORE THAN LOVE...

...JUST HOW MUCH I RESIDED WITHIN THE WARMTH OF THE SKIN OF THAT MAN, WITH WHOM I SHARED NO EMOTION...

BUT NOW THAT IT'S LOST, I FIRST UNDERSTAND...

I LOVED HIM.

...I WAS IN LOVE.

NOT AS THE QUEEN OF MIDLAND...

...BUT AS A WOMAN WILL I TAKE MY REVENGE!

I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU, GRIFFITH...

AS EVIDENCE OF OUR PATRIOTISM AND MUTUAL CONFI-DENCE ...

NOW THEN, EVERYONE.

...IF YOU WOULD SEAL THIS BLOOD OATH.....

HAHH!
OO!
ビッ!
WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?

OH, WOW!!
WERE THERE THIS MANY PEOPLE IN WINDHAM?

HULK HOGAN

オオオオオオ

LOOK THIS WAY, MISS!!

EEEK!! MISS CASCA!!

GIVE ME A BREAK .....

STOP THAT!

...

ﾁｬｯ

ﾁｬｯ

HE'S THE *MIGHTIEST* WARRIOR IN THE HAWKS!!

I HEARD HE BEAT *GENERAL* BOSCOGN!!

THERE'S *CAPTAIN* GUTS!!

IT'S THE RAIDERS!!

YOU KNOW, NOBODY EVEN *IMAGINED* ALL THIS THREE YEARS AGO.

HOW TRUE THAT IS.

WHY DON'T YOU *TRY* WAVING ONCE, CAPTAIN? YOU'RE THE HERO THIS TIME, AFTER ALL.

THIS IS *AMAZIN'!!* I'VE NEVER SEEN A WELCOME *THIS* BIG FOR A VICTORY!!

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU'RE SPACING OUT... AND YOU LOOK UPSET.

NAH, IT'S NOTHIN'.

EH?

CAPTAIN?

NOBODY BUT HIM...

"I WILL GET MY OWN KINGDOM."

...INCRED-IBLE.

ABSO-LUTELY...

NO, IT BECOMES YOU.

TELL ME, DOES THIS LOOK STRANGE?

YOUR HIGHNESS, COME QUICK!

OHHHH! HERE HE COMES!

THIS IS YOUR FIFTH DRESS NOW, HIGHNESS.

WELL, THEN! THAT'S GETTING A BIT TOO FAMILIAR WITH HIM, I'D SAY!

MY, LORD GRIFFITH IS SO POPULAR! THE WOMEN ARE MAKING SUCH A FUSS!

OHHH, HURRY UP!

PLEASE KEEP STILL, YOUR HIGHNESS. YOUR DRESS...

ワアアアア

!

HURRY, HURRY, HE'S PASSING BY!

AH! WAIT, WAIT!

AND YET SHE'S HARDLY HAD ANY APPETITE SINCE THE BAND OF THE HAWK WAS DEPLOYED.

THE PRINCESS CHEERED UP SO SUDDENLY.

EEEK!

LORD GRIFFIIIIITH !!

IT'S *IMPOSSIBLE* AMIDST ALL THIS NOISE. PLEASE WAIT UNTIL THE VICTORY BALL.

POO.

OHHHH.

.....
...!!

-:SIGH:-...

.....
.....

HOW GOES THE PLAN?

ALL IS IN PLACE, MAJESTY.

...WE SHOULD ALL HOLD A BANQUET. A BANQUET IN *MEMORIAM* OF HIM.

IF EVERYTHING GOES WELL...

...TO YOU, SIR.

THIS WAS ADDRESSED ...

WHAT IS IT?!

MINISTER FOSS.

ALTHOUGH, HE GETS TO DIE ON THE BEST DAY OF HIS LIFE. THAT, AT LEAST, IS MERCIFUL.

IT'S AN IRONY. THE WHITE HAWK OF THE BATTLEFIELD WILL MEET HIS DEATH WITHIN THE STONE WALLS OF THIS BIRDCAGE...

IT WAS SIMPLY PASSED ON TO ME BY A LADY OF THE COURT.

A LETTER? FROM WHOM, PRAY TELL.

THE SENDER IS UNKNOWN.

.....
.....

WHA...!!

YOU BASTARD ...!

YOU BASTARD !!

WHY?!

HOW?!

HOW DID THIS HAPPEN ...?!

AH. N- NO...

WHAT IS IT, MINISTER FOSS?

HA HA...

IT... IT IS NOTHING AT ALL.

UNTIL LATER.

MY APOLOGIES, BUT A SMALL MATTER HAS ARISEN, SO I MUST EXCUSE MYSELF.

?

TRIUMPHANT RETURN: END

OH! LOOK! LOOK, IT'S LORD GRIFFITH!

THEY WERE THE LEADS IN THIS VICTORY.

A TROUPE FROM THE BAND OF THE HAWK.

THEY'RE MIDLAND'S GUARDIAN DEITIES.

パチ パチ パチ パチ パチ

ベルセルク

MOMENT OF GLORY

ベルセルク

栄光の瞬間

キョロキョロ

ソワソワ

THIS'S SO EMBARRASSING...

はずかしーなー

C'MON, STICK YOUR CHEST OUT! THEY KNOW IF YOU AIN'T SURE OF YOURSELF!

...IT FEELS LIKE WE'VE FINALLY *MADE IT* HERE.

Y'KNOW WHAT, THOUGH ...

TALK ABOUT SHOWY...

AHA, SO *THIS* IS WHERE ALL THE TAX MONEY FROM THE MASSES ENDS UP.

...I NEVER WOULD'VE EVEN *THOUGHT* OF A DREAM LIKE THIS, BEING IN A BIG CASTLE HALL SURROUNDED BY NOBILITY.

IF I *HADN'T* MET UP WITH THE HAWKS... WITH GRIFFITH...

BUT YOU'RE RIGHT, WE REALLY *HAVE.* TO BE STANDING HERE IN A KIND OF PLACE I'VE ONLY HEARD OF IN FAIRY TALES...

IT'S LIKE I'M DREAMING OR SOMETHING.

YEAH.

YOU SAID IT.

.....
.....

LORD GRIFFITH!!

ドドドド

NOT AT ALL. THEY'RE *STIMULATING!*

AREN'T TALES OF BATTLE RATHER BARBARIC AND BORING FOR LADIES?

THEY SAY THE BAND OF THE HAWK WAS ACTIVELY INVOLVED AGAIN. DO TELL MORE.

WEL-COME HOME!

THANK GOOD-NESS YOU'RE SAFE!

I WAS SO WORRIED.

ME AS WELL, PLEASE!

WOULD YOU DANCE WITH ME LATER ON?

OH, YES.

AMAZ-ING.

HNNN! SEND AT LEAST *ONE* THIS WAY!

HE'S A *NATURAL.*

WOW!

YEAH.

YOU'RE THE ONE, AREN'T YOU? THE CAPTAIN OF THE RAIDERS WHO BEAT GENERAL BOSCOGN IN SINGLE COMBAT?

AND GENERAL BOSCOGN WAS WORLD RENOWNED FOR BEING SUCH A HERO!

OH!

OH!

ワイ

ワイ

ワイ

YOU MUST BE VERY STRONG!

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR WAR STORIES.

YOU'RE THE BAND OF THE HAWK'S COMMAN-DERS.

WELLLL, YOU'RE RIGHT, ACTUALLY.

I WONDER WHO IS STRONG-ER... HIM OR LORD GRIF-FITH?

ARE YOU THE STRONGEST IN THE BAND OF THE HAWK?

UN-BELIEV-ABLE!

YEAH ...

ワイ

ワイ

ワイ

YOU REALLY DID THAT?

I HEARD YOU ALSO DEFEATED A HUNDRED ENEMIES BY YOURSELF.

ワイ

WELLLL, I'M THE ONE WHO TAUGHT HIM THE SWORD, Y'SEE.

BESIDES, HE'S A FAG ANYWAY.

...!!

LET ME TOUCH, LET ME TOUCH.

AMAZ-ING MUS-CLES.

THAT'S SELFISH, GUTS.

OH, MY.

HE'S SO CUTE!

YEAH, LEAVE IT TO US!

...TAKE IT FROM HERE...

YOU GUYS ...

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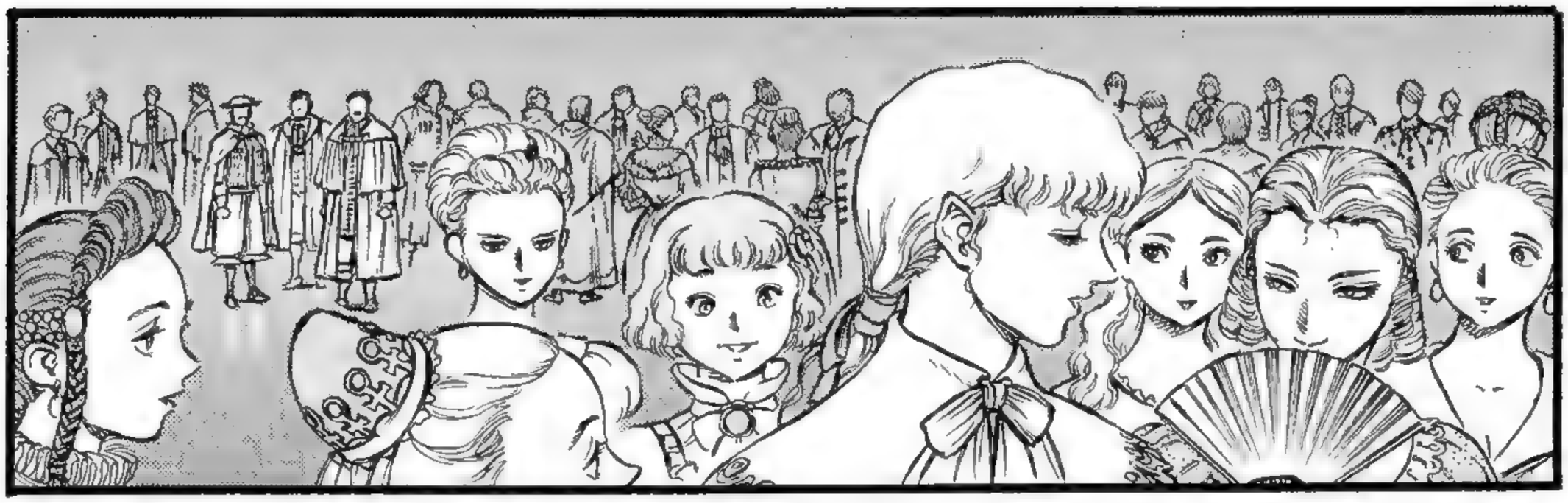

ISN'T HE FESTIVE ...
-:HMPH:-

WITH EASE THEY ANSWERED THE PRAYER OUR KINGDOM HAS HELD DEAR FOR THE PAST HUNDRED YEARS.
THE BAND OF THE HAWK'S MERIT.
BUT I DON'T SUPPOSE THE GENERALS CAN FAIL TO RECOGNIZE THE TRUTH...
THAT'S INNER AGGRES-SION IF EVER I'VE SEEN IT...
YES.

THOSE ARE THE WORDS OF SOME MINISTER OF STATE, SIR OWEN.

I WOULD STAKE OUT A SHARE MYSELF.

YOU DID WELL TO SPEAK UP FOR HIM. EXCELLENT FORESIGHT, SIR LABAN.

THE WAR WILL END. WOULD IT BE THAT THE PEACE WHICH WILL FOLLOW LASTS FOR TIME *IMMEMORIAL*...

BUT FOR BETTER OR WORSE, IN A WORLD OF PEACE, WARRIORS LIKE US WHO LIVE BY THE SWORD MUST ALSO FIND A MEANS OF SURVIVAL WITHIN THIS RESPLENDENT CASTLE.

BUT...

...HENCE-FORTH THAT JUST MAY BE NECESSARY.

HE IS TOO CONSPICUOUS TO PROCEED PEACEFULLY AND UNEVENTFULLY INSIDE THE CASTLE.

THE MORE *RADIANT* THE LIGHT, THE DARKER THE SHADOWS FALL.

AND IRONICALLY ENOUGH, THE SAME CAN BE SAID OF THE VERY MAN WHO BROUGHT ABOUT THAT PEACE.

WHAT THE HELL'S THIS FOR?

GIMME A *FREAKIN'* BREAK.

OH?!

ガバッ

C'MERE !!

...

スタ. スタ.

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ポコ.

...EH?

H-HEY!! WAIT! WHAT THE--?!

PUSHY BROAD!

PLAY along!

WHOA...!!

PRETEND YOU'RE WITH ME FOR A BIT.

THEY REFUSED TO LEAVE ME ALONE.

WHEN IT COMES TO THOSE ARISTOCRATIC PRODIGAL SONS...

I SWEAR!

...A FEMALE WARRIOR MUST BE A *RARITY!* TREATING ME LIKE I'M SOME *EXOTIC BEAST!*

WHAT'S WITH YOU...?

.....
.....

HMMM...

!

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE INTO--

GAHH!

ガコ。

HUH.

...
...

OWW...

COME ON! THIS'S EM-BARRAS-SING.

S'YOUR FAULT Y'KNOW.

N-NORMAL WOMEN DON'T USE THEIR ELBOWS!

クス クス クス

AH!

I BIT MY TONGUE!

WHAT MADE BIG SIS CASCA THE DEMON GO FLUTTERING AROUND LIKE THIS?

WHAT THE HECK HAPPENED TO YOU, THOUGH?

CUT THE "DE-MON."

I ONLY DRESS LIKE A MAN BECAUSE IT'S EASIER TO MOVE AROUND! IT'S NOT LIKE I DO IT FOR KICKS!

YOU SAID IT.

-:WHEWWWWW:-. I'M NO GOOD AT THIS. I'M MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE SWINGING A SWORD!

...

...

DOES IT LOOK WEIRD...

...YOU THINK?

THINKING ABOUT IT, IT'S BEEN YEARS SINCE I LAST WORE A SKIRT... AND I'M SO MUCH MORE MUSCULAR NOW.

BUT I GUESS I SHOULDN'T TRY THINGS I'M NOT USED TO. REVEALING CLOTHES LIKE THIS MAKE ME FEEL I'LL CATCH A COLD.

NAH, NOT A BIT.

YOU LOOK PRETTY GOOD.

I'D PROBABLY STEP ON HIS FEET.

I'VE ONLY EVER DANCED AT MY VILLAGE FESTIVAL WHEN I WAS A CHILD...

YEAH, YOU LOOK *A LOT* BETTER THAN THOSE NOBLE GIRLS FLOCKIN' AROUND GRIFFITH.

REALLY?

I COULDN'T.

N-NO WAY.

HOW 'BOUT IT?

WHY NOT ASK HIM FOR A DANCE?

I THOUGHT I'D SEE IT FOR MYSELF .....

... HUH?

.....
.....

YOU'VE NEVER SHOWN YOUR FACE IN A PLACE LIKE *THIS*.

BUT WHAT HAPPENED THAT CHANGED YOUR ATTITUDE?

...I THOUGHT I'D COME SEE IT WITH MY OWN EYES.

...AND ALL HE'S GOING TO TRY TO GET FROM HERE ON OUT...

ALL THE THINGS HE'S MANAGED TO GET SO FAR...

...THESE PAST THREE YEARS SINCE I MET YOU ALL...

EVERYTHING GRIFFITH, MYSELF, AND EVERYONE ELSE HAS DONE...

...YOU'RE REALLY SERIOUS?

SO...

GUTS ...

ドドド

NO MATTER WHAT?

ドドド

LONG LIVE HIS MAJESTY, THE KING!!

ドドド

!

.....
.....

YOU GO ON AHEAD.

I'M GONNA ENJOY THE AIR A BIT MORE. CAN'T STAND LISTENING TO THE KING DRONE ON.

THE SPONSORS APPEAR.

YOU GOT IT.

DON'T BE LONG.

NEVER MIND.

NAH.

HANG ON.

EH?

AIN'T THAT A LITTLE CRUEL, GRIFFITH?

THERE'S ONE MORE REASON I SHOWED UP TONIGHT.

...WHAT'S IN THE WORKS HERE TONIGHT.

SHE AND THE REST OF THE HAWKS DON'T HAVE A CLUE...

FIRST AND FOREMOST, WE HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR ALL OF YOU.

A SHORT WHILE AGO, A SPECIAL ENVOY FROM CHUDER BROUGHT WORD THAT AN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT WITH OUR KINGDOM HAS BEEN SIGNED.

THERE ARE MORE THAN A FEW WHO SPEAK OUT IN OPPOSITION TO THIS ARMISTICE.

HATRED OF CHUDER AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE LOST FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES TO THE WAR HAS NO DOUBT PERSISTED FOR THREE GENERATIONS.

WE THANK FROM OUR HEARTS ALL THOSE WHO HAVE *ENDURED* THIS LENGTHY TIME OF TRIAL ALONG WITH US.

WE *SINCERELY* SYMPATHIZE WITH THEM.

HOWEVER, THE REBUILDING OF OUR WEARIED KINGDOM IS FAR MORE URGENT.

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HEREAFTER, WE MUST FOCUS THAT *STRENGTH* TOWARDS OUR KINGDOM'S PROSPERITY.

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!

IT HAS CONTINUED TO BE SAID THESE HUNDRED YEARS THAT THE CAPTURE OF DOLDREY WAS *IMPOSSIBLE*, BUT WITH THEIR BOLD, UNIQUE BRAND OF VALOR THEY HAVE FINALLY ACCOMPLISHED IT.

THE RECAPTURE OF TERRITORY HAS BEEN OUR KINGDOM'S MOST FERVENT PRAYER SINCE THE DAYS OF TWO KINGS PRIOR.

AS YOU ALL KNOW, THE *BAND OF THE HAWK* LED BY *COUNT GRIFFITH* DEMONSTRATED EXCEEDINGLY GREAT MERIT LEADING TO THIS ARMISTICE.

OH!

HE'S TALKIN' ABOUT US.

...WE PLAN TO PRESENT COUNT GRIFFITH AND THE BAND OF THE HAWK WITH THE MIDLAND ARMY'S...

AT THE MILITARY AWARD CEREMONY TWO DAYS HENCE...

...HIGHEST ENNOBLEMENT, THE *WHITE TITLE.*

EXCUSE ME, PLEASE LET ME THROUGH.

THIS IS A BIT HASTY OF US, BUT IT IS A TIME FOR CELEBRATION AND THUS WE SHALL INFORM ALL OF YOU.

MY, MY.

SHE'S THE HAWKS' LADY COMMANDER.

HE SAID THE WHITE PHOENIX KNIGHTS!

THE WHITE PHOENIX GENERAL!!

FAN-TASTIC !!!

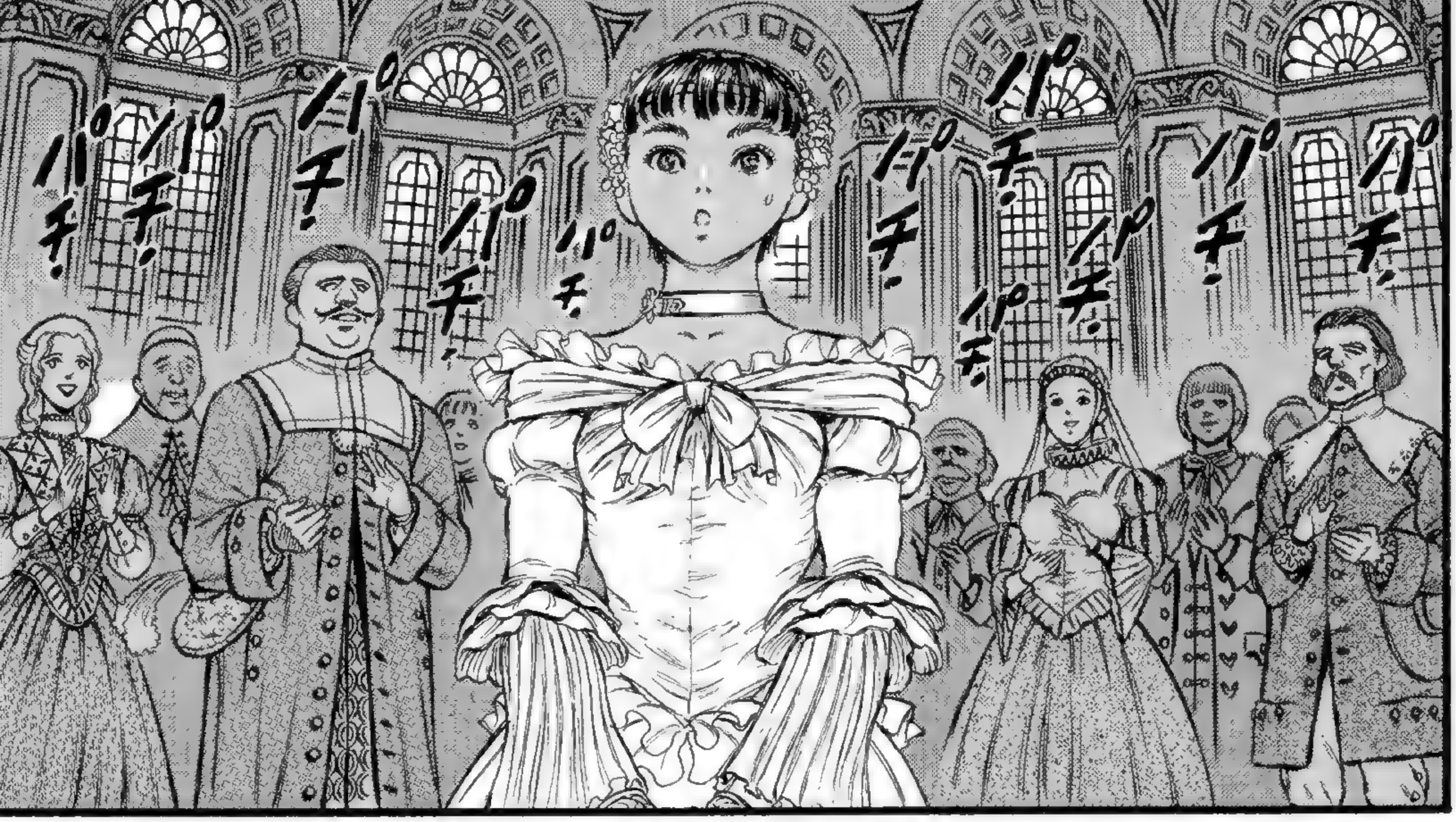
THAT'S WONDER-FUL!!

WHITE PHOENIX GENERAL GRIFFITH!!

PERHAPS APPROPRI-ATELY...

ALSO WE SHALL *BEKNIGHT* ALL OF THE BAND OF THE HAWK'S CURRENT UNIT COMMANDERS WITHOUT EXCEPTION AND RAISE THEM TO THE PEERAGE.

...AS THE *WHITE PHOENIX GENERAL GRIFFITH* AND THE *WHITE PHOENIX KNIGHTS*.



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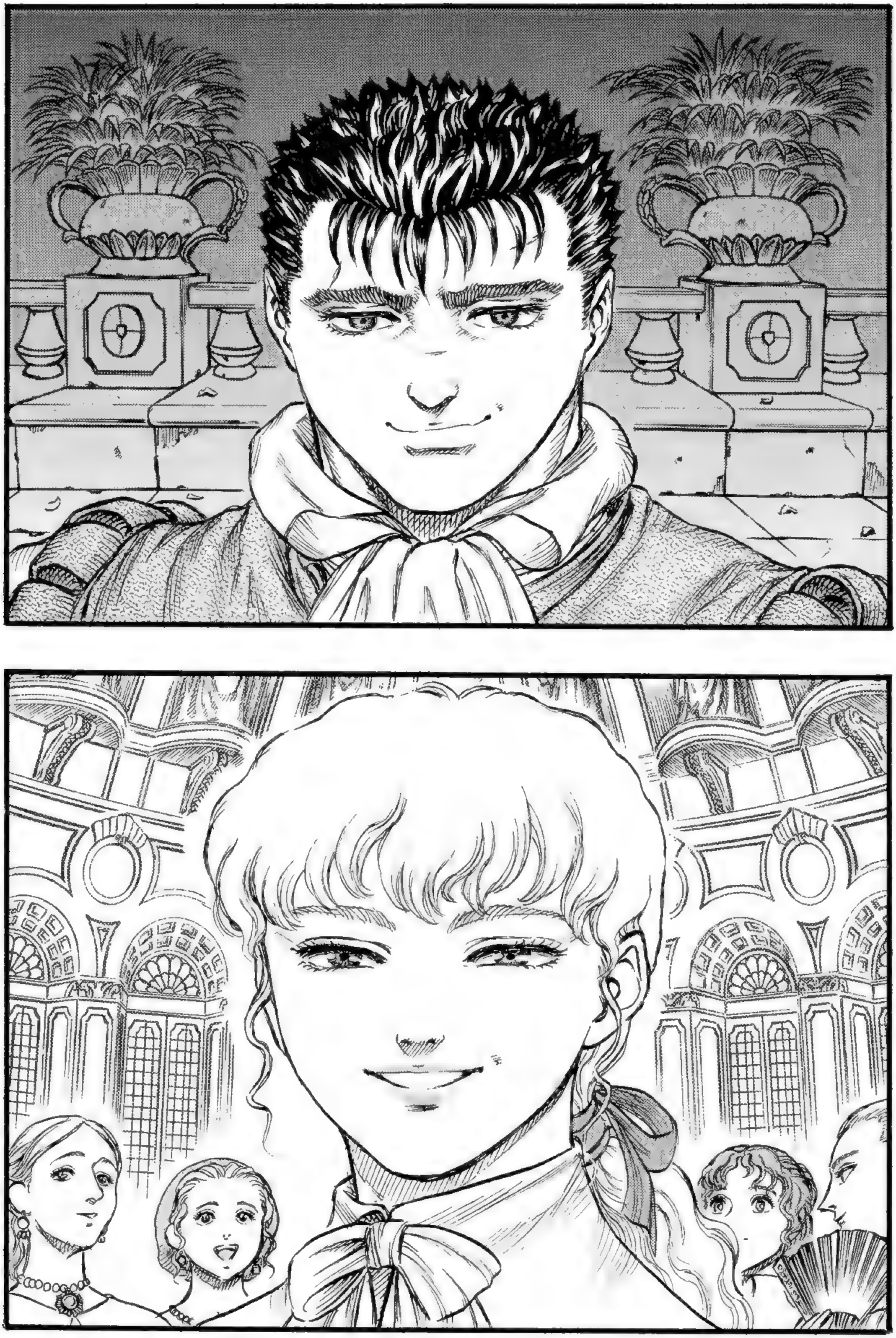

WHITE PHOENIX GENERAL GRIFFITH!!

THE WHITE PHOENIX KNIGHTS!!

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TOMBSTONE OF FLAME, CHAPTER 1

炎の墓標(1)

YOUR LIFE WILL END SOON ENOUGH.

INTOXICATE YOURSELF WITH YOUR DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR WHILE YOU STILL CAN.

TH-THIS HAS BECOME EXTRA-ORDINARY.

KH...

WHA... WHAT ...?!

:HMPH:

YAY! THAT'S GREAT!!

IP☆ IP☆ IP☆

IT'S ABOUT THAT TIME... *MINISTER FOSS...*

.....
.....

HA...?

WHATEVER IS THE MATTER? YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU FEEL WELL.

NO, IT'S NOT THAT.

THAT ISN'T LIKE YOU. CERTAINLY YOU AREN'T AFRAID *NOW?*

PLEASE, PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER.

.....
.....

HERE YOU ARE, SIR.

...

THANK YOU.

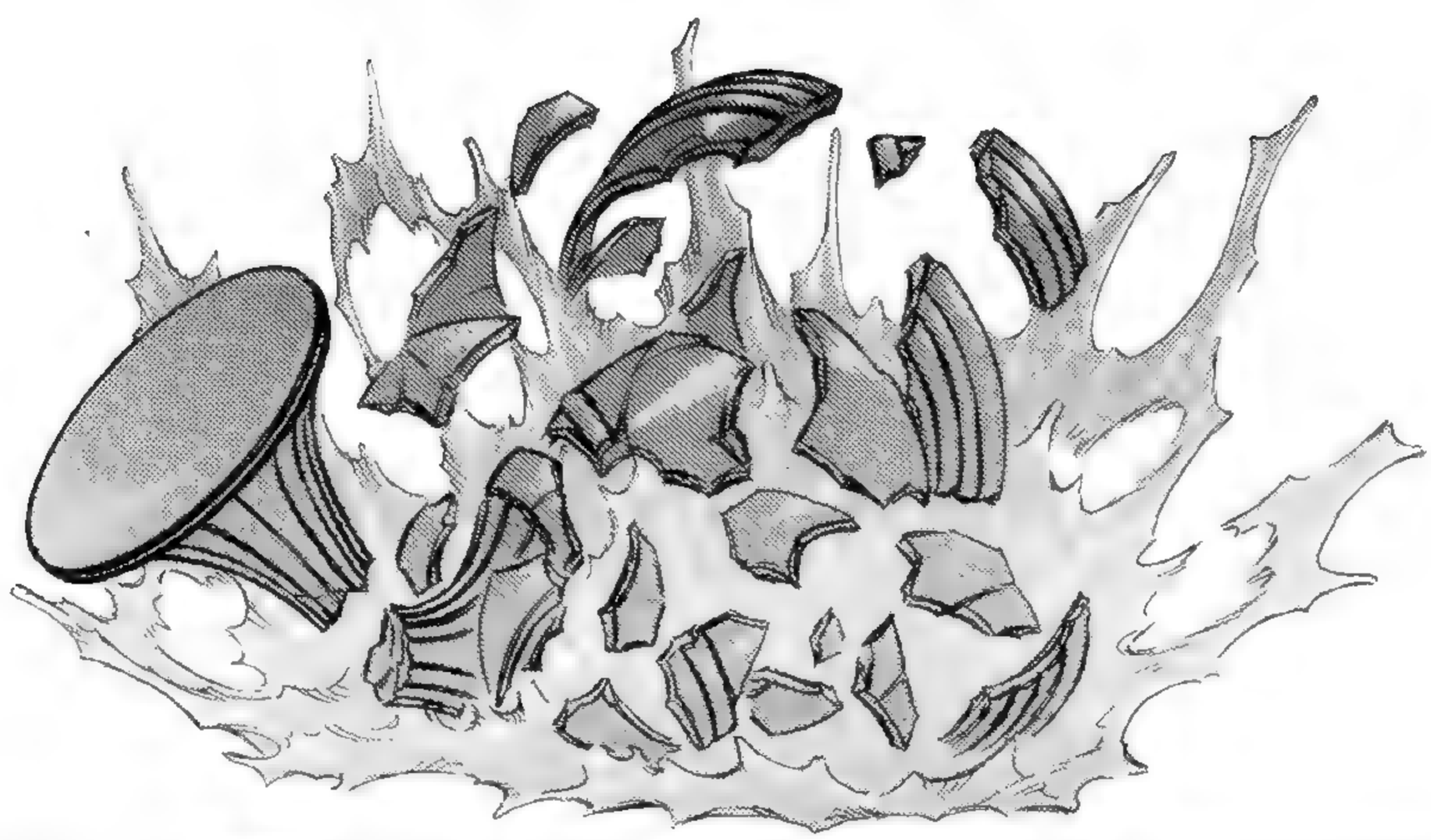
...AND TO THE SHINING FUTURE OF MIDLAND.

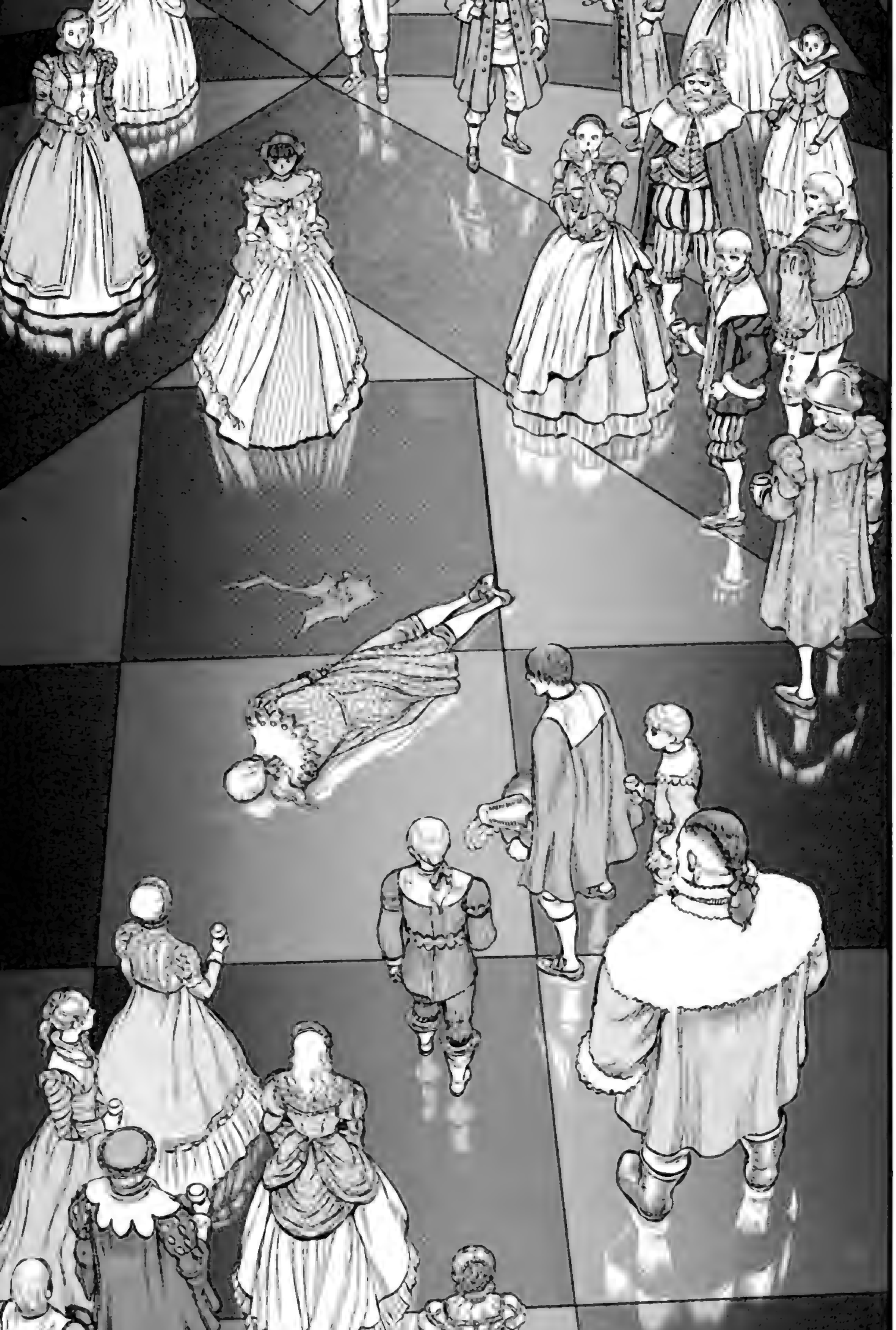
NOW THEN, TO THE BIRTH OF OUR YOUNG NEW HEROES...

LET ME THROUGH ...

A TOAST.

GRIFFI --





GRIFFITH!

GRI...
FFITH...?

CHARLOTTE?!

!

HIGH-NESS!!

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ハア.

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DON'T LET ANYONE OUT!

SEAL THE HALL!!

GUARDS !!

...
...

HAHH!
...THAN COMMONERS LIKE US COULD GET FROM TEN YEARS OF HONEST WORK.
HEHEH. THAT WAS EASY. I JUST MADE MORE MONEY ...
THIS MEANS FAREWELL TO THAT BORING DISHWASHING JOB.
HN?
I JUST NEED TO GET AWAY FROM THE CITY TONIGHT...

ドカ・ドカッ

ヒュウカ。

YOUR SKILLS ARE MOST IMPRESSIVE.

EVERYTHING WENT ACCORDING TO MINISTER FOSS' ARRANGEMENTS.

NO, NOT AT ALL...

IT SEEMED TOO EASY.

I NEVER EXPECTED THINGS TO PROCEED SO WELL...

YES, IT WAS IMPRESSIVE, MINISTER FOSS.

YOUR FACE IS PALE.

WHAT'S WRONG?

AH...I AM GRATEFUL.

A TRICK OF THE CANDLE-LIGHT.

...IT MUST BE YOUR IMAGIN-ATION.

IT...

WELL, THEN...

I SHALL GO CHECK ON THE PANDE-MONIUM.

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY OVER THAT POINT.

OUR NAMES WOULD BE MADE PUBLIC.

BUT WE REALLY ARE SAFE, YES? WHAT OF THE SLIM CHANCE THAT SERVER IS CAUGHT AND SPEAKS OF IT?

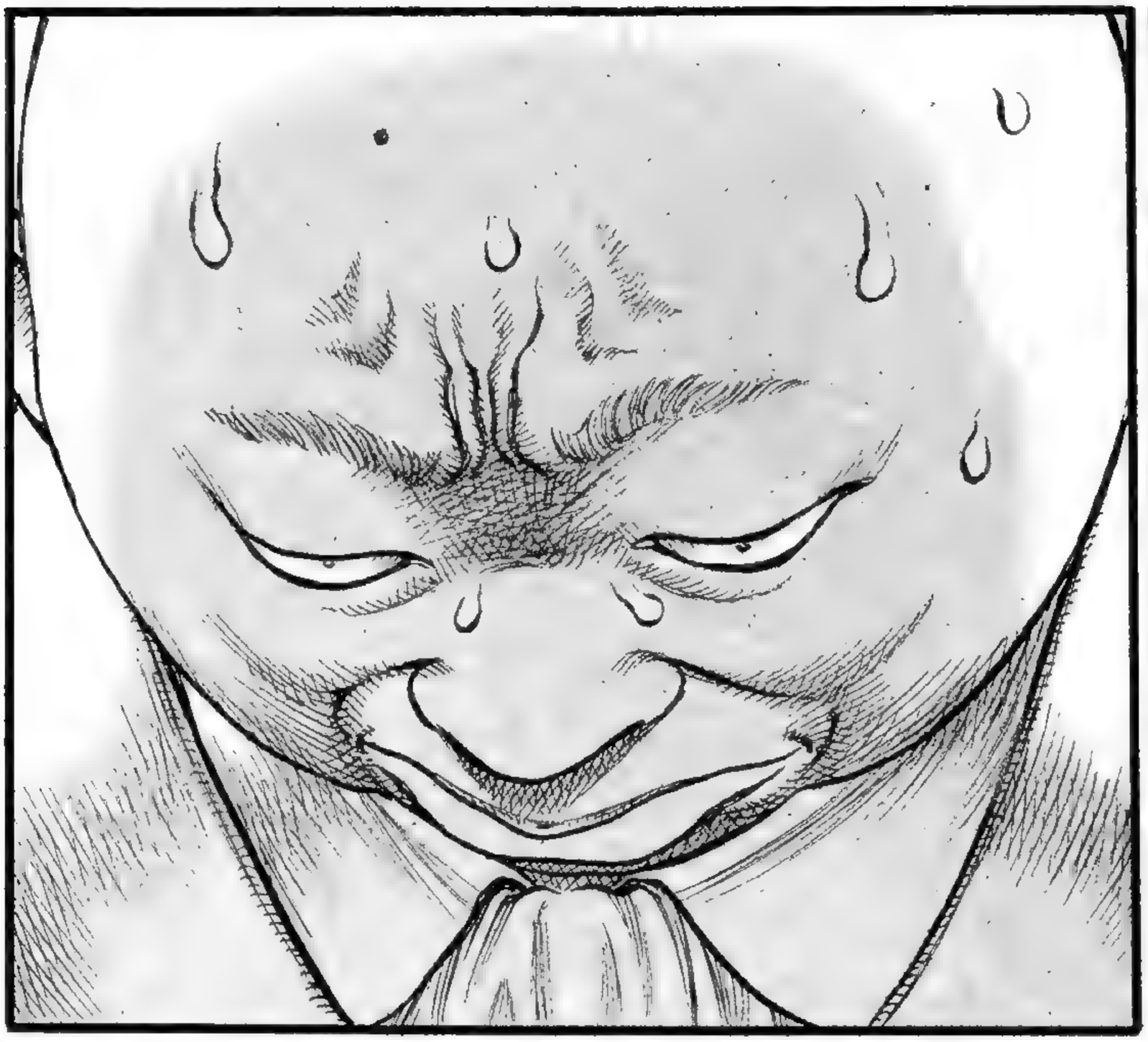
...YOU'VE TAKEN CARE OF ALL THE LOOSE ENDS...

OHH! THEN...

WHAT A *TACTICIAN!* THE MINISTER WAS OVERQUALIFIED FOR THIS.

...FROM ONE OF MY SUBORD-INATES THAT HE HAD BEEN *DISPOSED* OF...

A LITTLE WHILE AGO A REPORT CAME IN...



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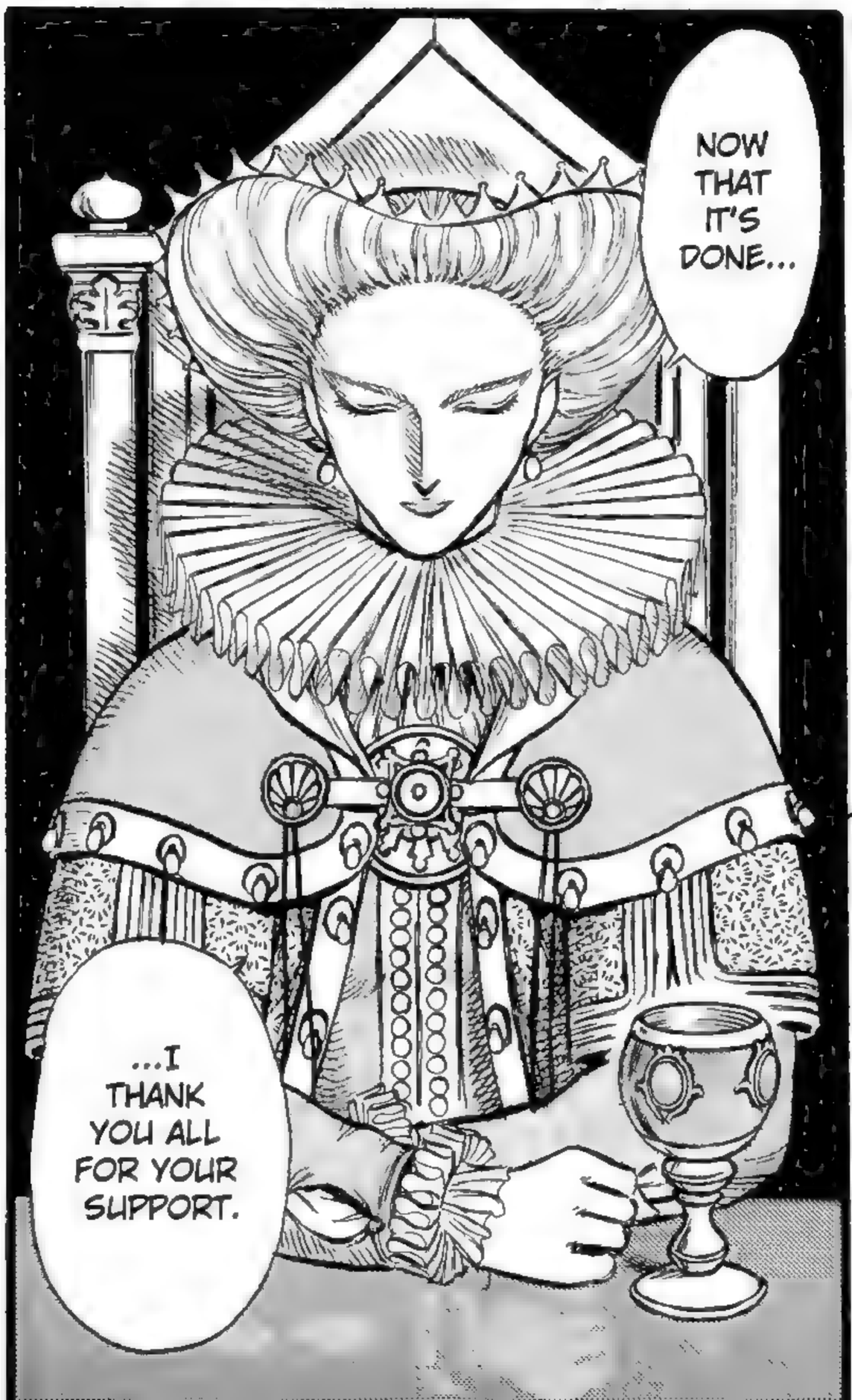
NOW THAT IT'S DONE...
...I THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

SURE ENOUGH ...
NOW OUR MIDLAND ARMY CAN FINALLY REGAIN ITS FORMER DIGNITY.
A COMMON-BORN WHITE PHOENIX GENERAL... OUTRAGEOUS! LOW-RANKING SOLDIERS MUSN'T BE ALLOWED SUCH ARROGANCE.
IT NEARLY MADE FOR A HEINOUS PRECEDENT.
AND YET THAT MAN OF HUMBLE ORIGINS TRIED TO... WHAT DO THE PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT RULING A KINGDOM?!
WE ALMOST BECAME THE LAUGHINGSTOCK OF THE WORLD.
THE CENTER OF GOVERNMENT IN THIS KINGDOM MUST ALWAYS BE RESERVED FOR THOSE OF US FROM DIGNIFIED BLOODLINES.

...HM.

THIS WAS ALL MADE POSSIBLE BY HER MAJESTY'S BACKING.

THANKING US...?

WITH THIS, HE CAN REST IN PEACE.

WHAT'S THIS SMOKE...?

WHAT THE--?

WHA...

!

HN...!

M-MOVE ASIDE!

S... SOMETHING'S BEEN PUSHED AGAINST THE DOOR ON THE OUTSIDE, AND IT WON'T *BUDGE!*

WHAT?!

WHA...

WHAT IS THIS ...?!

F-

FIRE?!

YEEEE!!

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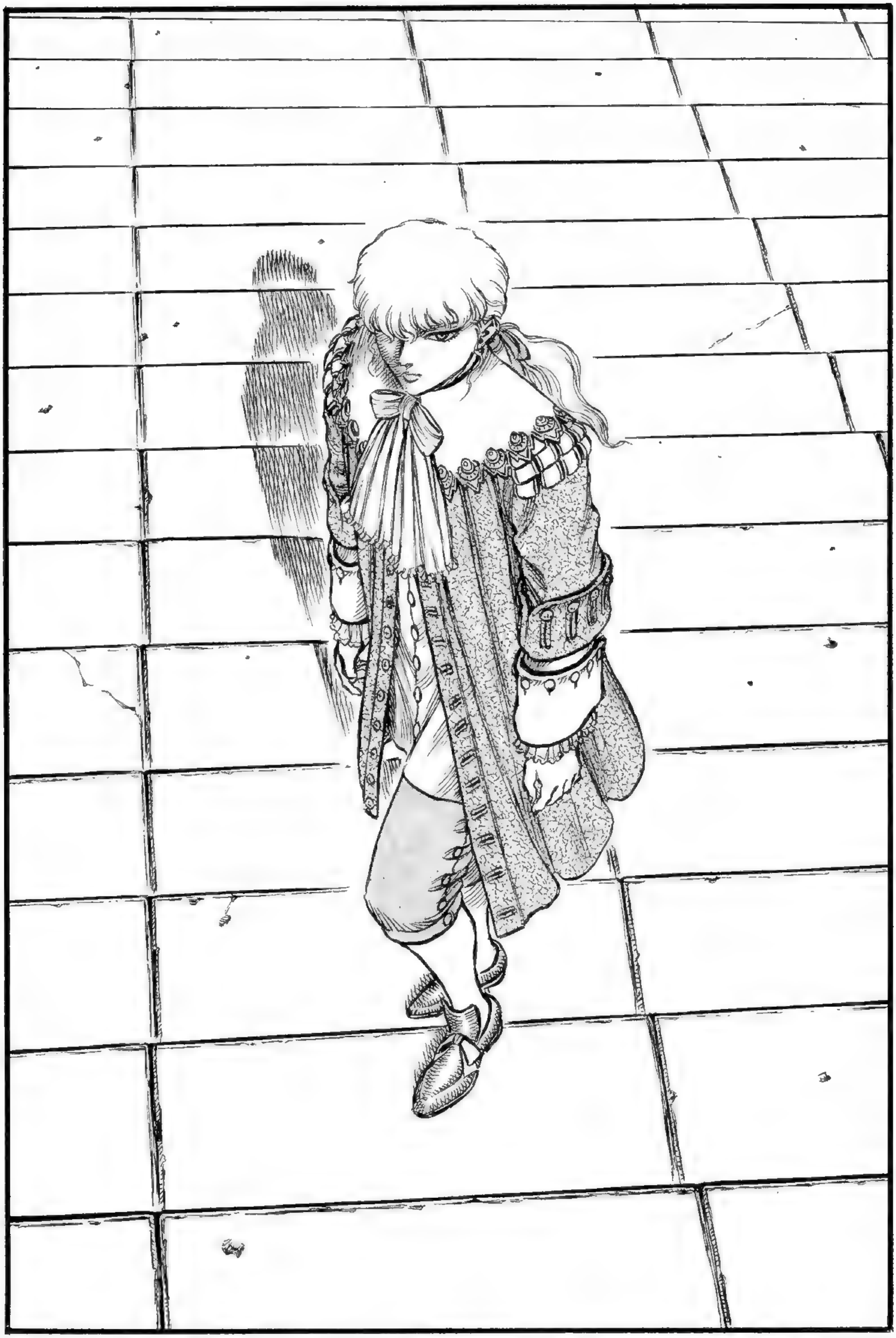
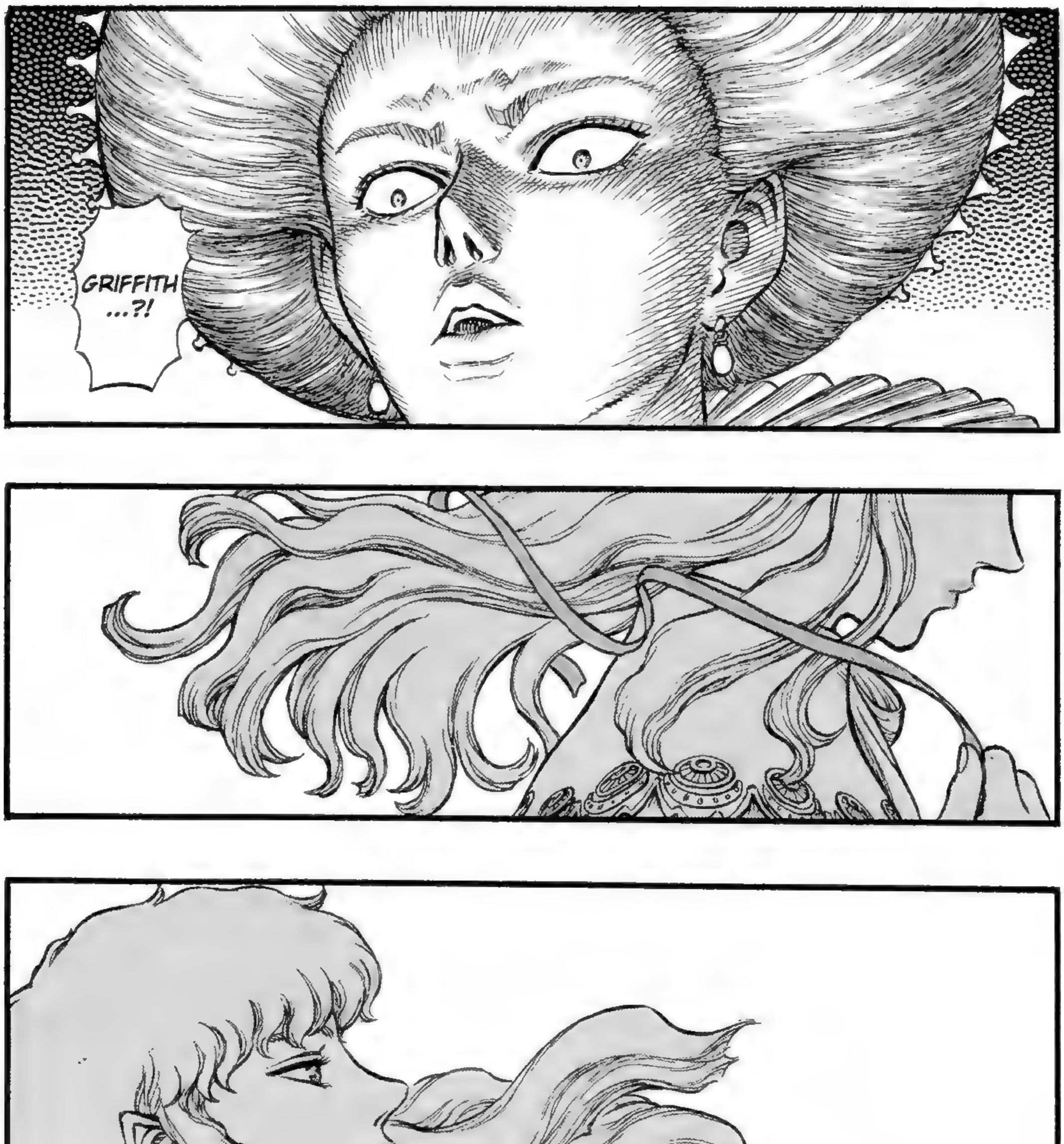
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS...?!

WHA...




GRIFFITH
...?!
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炎の墓標(2)

TOMBSTONE OF FLAME, CHAPTER 2

THAT'S HOW I *ARRANGED* IT.

AND I'M *SURE* IT SEEMED THAT WAY.

H- *HOW...?!*

THE DOCTORS WERE SURE YOU WERE DEAD!!

BUT IT WAS *WORTH* THE RISK.

NATURALLY, IF I HAD TAKEN A FATAL DOSE I *REALLY WOULD* HAVE DIED...

THANKS TO IT, I WAS ABLE TO DEAL WITH ALL OF YOU AT ONCE.

IT WAS NOT POISON THAT PASSED MY LIPS.

IT WAS A NOSTRUM, A HYOSCYAMUS-BASED MIXTURE THAT PUT ME IN A TEMPORARY STASIS CLOSE TO DEATH.

IN ANY CASE, IT SEEMS...

...ALL OF YOU ARE TOO ACCUSTOMED TO SCHEMING OVER THINGS FROM BEHIND YOUR DESKS.

I WAS SIMPLY CALLED UPON BY HER MAJESTY AND MINISTER FOSS!! I HAD NO DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN IT!!

S-SPARE ME!!

SILENCE, YOU FOOL!!

AIIEE

ワアアア

THIS IS WAR.

DAMN YOU, GRIFFITH!!

DAMN YOU ...

THERE ARE NO SPECTATOR SEATS ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

I WON'T ALLOW IT...

I WON'T ACKNOW-LEDGE IT!!!

ゴォオオオオ

A MERE COMMONER LIKE *YOU* IS GOING TO BURN ME, THE QUEEN OF MIDLAND, TO *DEATH*?!

SO, YOU MEAN TO *KILL ME*?! JUST LIKE YOU KILLED *JULIUS*!!

THOSE WHO DIE ON THE BATTLEFIELD ARE NOT ROYALTY, NOBILITY, OR COMMONERS.

THEY ARE THE *DEFEATED* WHO DIE.

IT IS OVER.

WHAT'S THE MATTER? A MAN OF YOUR *CALIBER*, TREMBLING.

IS SUCH A THING SO *RARE* WITHIN THE COURT?

...OR IS IT BECAUSE YOU TOOK PART IN THE ASSASSINATION OF A *QUEEN*?

ARE YOU *FRIGHTENED*...

...BECAUSE YOU *BETRAYED* YOUR COMRADES?

HOW DID YOU COME TO KNOW ABOUT OUR PLAN?

I-I WANT TO ASK YOU ONE THING.

I...

I HAD PREDICTED YOU WOULD BECOME MY *ENEMY*...

BUT *YOU* ARE DIFFERENT, MINISTER FOSS.

I *DIDN'T* KNOW ABOUT IT.

...!!

WHY ME?!

TH- THEN...

YOU CAUGHT SIGHT OF MY EYES THEN.

...EVER SINCE THAT MORNING I DEPLOYED.

I KNEW FROM THAT TIME THAT YOU WOULD *NEVER* PERMIT MY EXISTENCE.

THAT TIME...!!

!

...H--

HOW ?!

AT THAT INSTANT...

...YOUR EYES...

...BETRAYED YOUR FEAR.

HE HAS ONLY TWO OPTIONS...

WHEN A MAN IS FACED WITH SOMETHING HE *TRULY* FEARS, HE *CANNOT* IGNORE IT.

...OR HE CAN *STRIKE* IT OUT AND *ERASE* THE FEAR.

HE CAN BECOME *SUBORDINATE* AND *FALL* UNDER ITS WING...

IT'S HIM...!!

I'VE LONG KNOWN THAT THERE WERE MORE THAN A FEW AMONGST THE CONSERVATIVES IN COURT WHO DID NOT THINK WELL OF ME, BUT I WASN'T ABLE TO DETERMINE SPECIFICALLY WHO THEY WERE.

BUT SOMEONE AS SHREWD AS YOU WAS CERTAIN TO ROUND THEM UP AND GO ABOUT TRYING TO REMOVE ME.

...

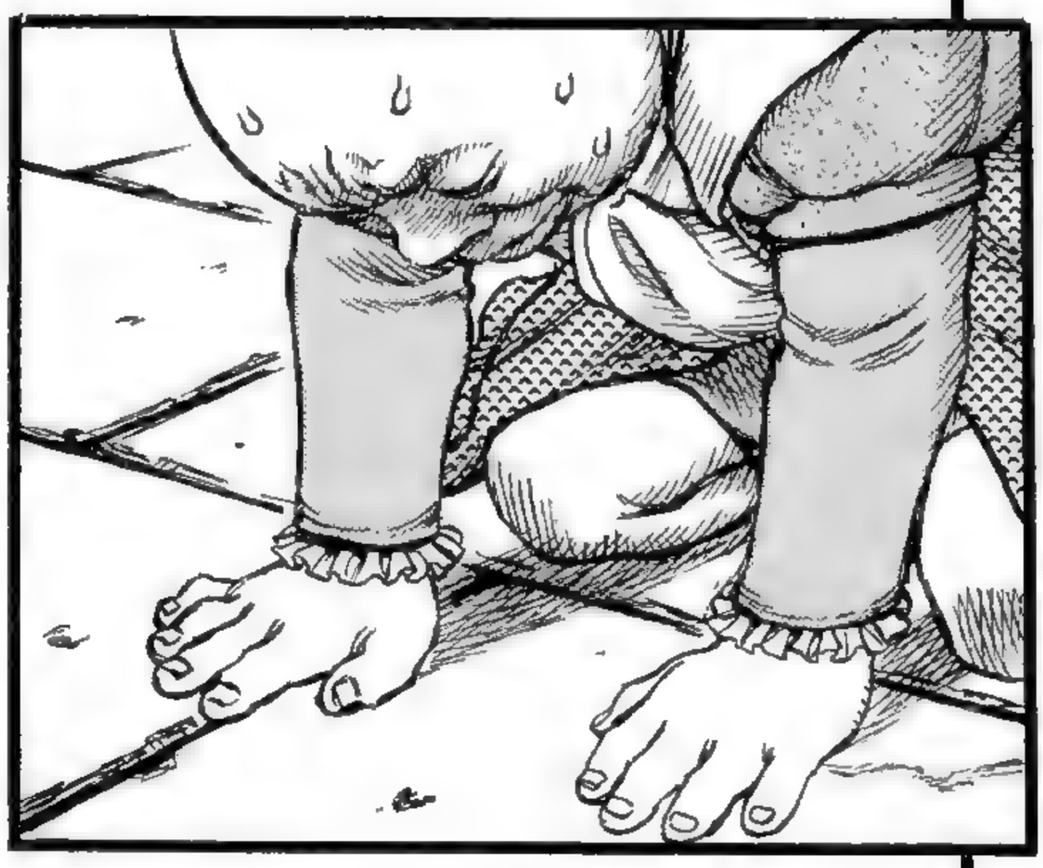
THOUGH STILL...

THAT THE QUEEN HERSELF WOULD PLAY A PART WAS *UNFORESEEN.*

IT'S THAT THIS MAN IS DREADFUL!!!

...YES, THE REASON I CAN'T STOP TREMBLING ISN'T BECAUSE I BETRAYED MY COMRADES...NOR WAS IT THAT I WAS AN ACCOMPLICE TO THE QUEEN'S MURDER!!

H-HOW COULD THIS BE?! JUST FROM OUR EYES MEETING FOR THAT INSTANT?! HAVE I BEEN DANCING TO THIS MAN'S TUNE EVER SINCE THEN?!



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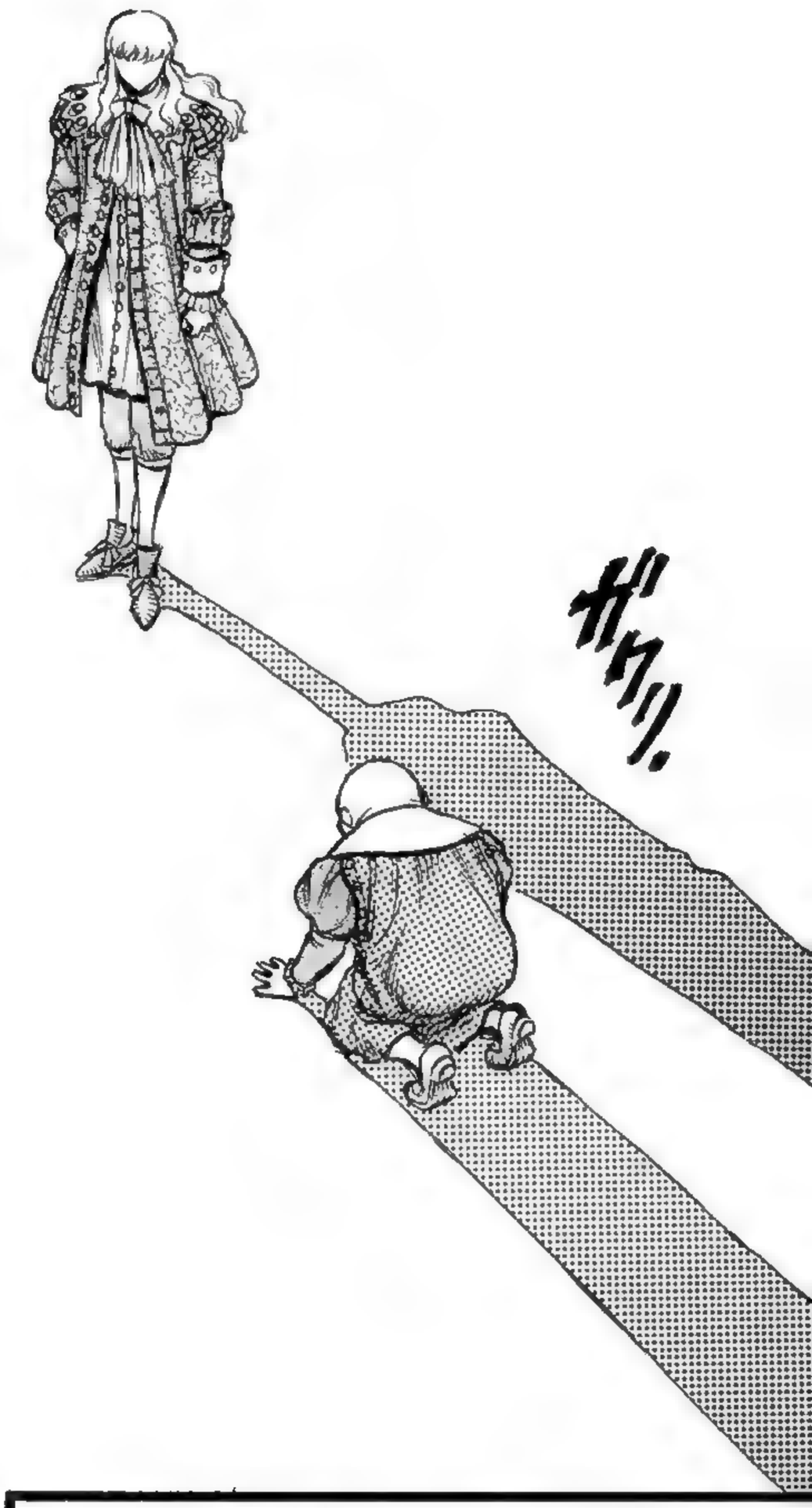
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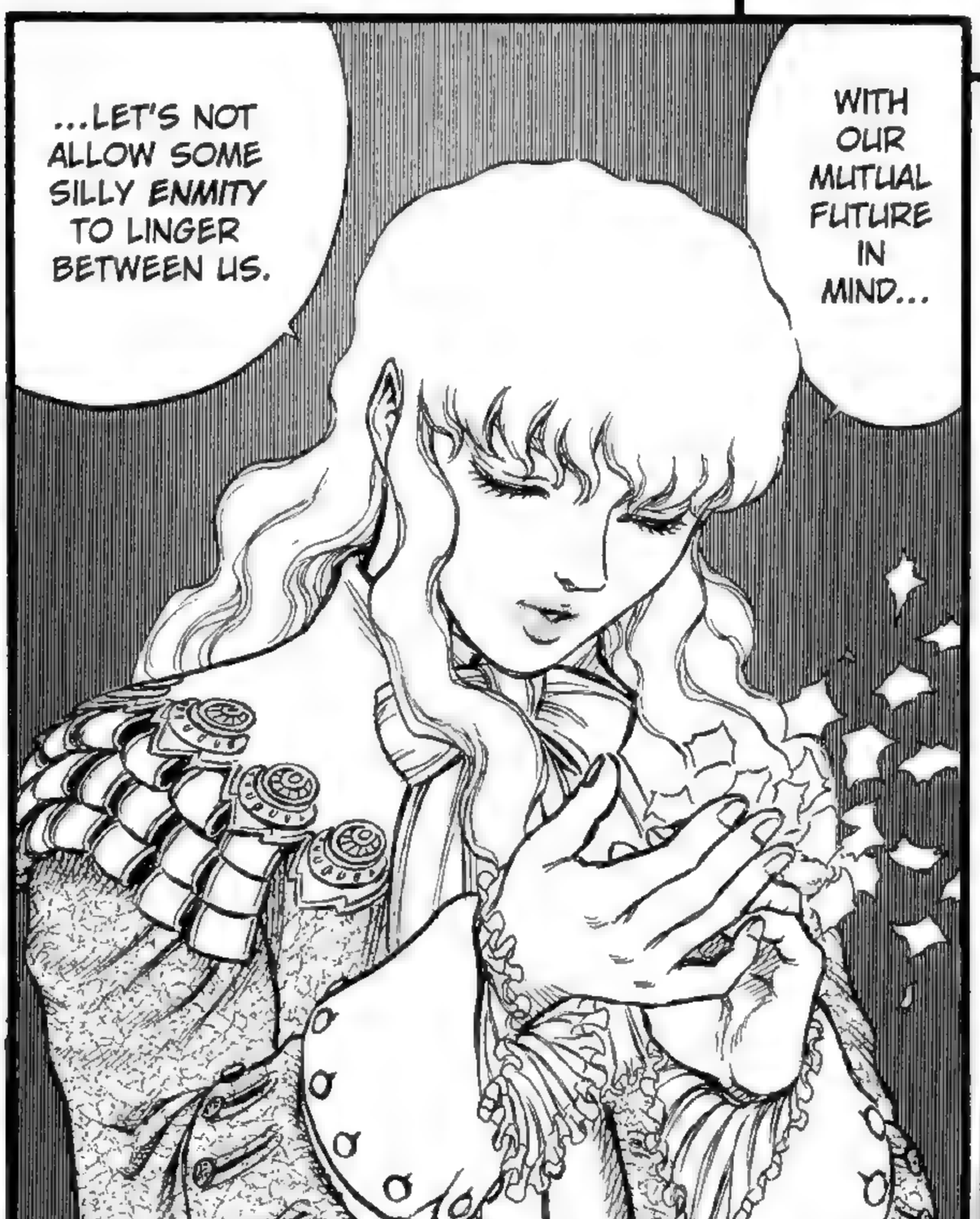
...LET'S NOT ALLOW SOME SILLY ENMITY TO LINGER BETWEEN US.
WITH OUR MUTUAL FUTURE IN MIND...

ビクッ!
THERE'S NO LONGER ANY NEED FOR THIS BLOOD OATH I CONFISCATED.

...WE CAN BE *AMICABLE* HENCEFORTH.

I HOPE...

I WILL RETURN TO YOU WHAT I PROMISED.

...CAN HE SMILE INNOCENTLY THAT WAY?!

HOW?! HOW, WHEN HE'S DONE SO MUCH...

...

COME THIS WAY, MINI-STER.

FATHER!!

ELISE!!

HEHEH... CALL IT AN EMOTIONAL REUNION, EH?

FATHERRRRR!!

ELISE... YOU'RE SAFE!! YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY NOW!!

WE DIDN'T GIVE HER A SINGLE SPANKING EVEN IF SHE SCREAMED AND CRIED.

OF COURSE, AS *PROMISED*, WE WERE COURTEOUS WITH HER.

HEE HEE HEE ...

BUT THIS WAS ONE *TOUGH* JOB.

HE HEH...

...THOUGH YOU WERE THE ONE WHO MADE THE ARRANGEMENTS, SIR...

WE HAD TO STAKE OUT THE KID'S LESSON SCHEDULE FOR A WEEK, THEN WAIT FOR HER TO LEAVE IN A CARRIAGE...

WE WOULD *VERY* MUCH LIKE TO CONTINUE DEALING WITH YOU FOR A LONG TIME, SIR.

IF YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE DONE, PLEASE CALL ON US.

OHH ...!!

WOW, SO MUCH!!

GOOD WORK. HERE'S THE REST OF YOUR REWARD.

.....
.....

WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY, THEN.....

!

HEHEH... THAT WAS SIMPLE.

NOT TO MENTION *PROFIT-ABLE.*

HOPE HE HIRES US AGAIN.

...WE'LL JUST USE THIS KIDNAPPING AGAINST HIM.

C'MON, IF HE TRIES TO CUT TIES WITH US...

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!

WH- WHO'S THERE?!

YEAH...
LOOKS LIKE IT'S OVER.

THAT TAKES CARE OF IT. ALL OF IT.

TO THINK THEY THREW THEIR LIVES AWAY FOR CHUMP CHANGE.

WELL, I GUESS IT BEATS A SOLDIER'S MEAGER WAGE.

LEAVE IT THERE.

HELL OF A WASTE.

...
...

MONEY'S THE KEY TO ALL DOORS?

THEY DID THE WORK TO EARN IT.

LEAVE IT WITH THEM.

THE MONEY'S THEIRS BY RIGHT.

I CAN'T PREDICT THE FUTURE, BUT PROBABLY...

I THINK HE'S LEARNED TODAY'S LESSON.

IS IT SAFE TO LET THE LITTLE BALD GUY GO?

YEAH.

WE'LL CROSS THAT BRIDGE WHEN WE COME TO IT.

WHADDA YA MEAN "PROB-ABLY"?

BUT Y'KNOW, THE CASTLE'S GONNA BE UPSET *AGAIN* BY ALL THIS. THIS ONE NIGHT'S SEEN A MOUNTAIN OF CORPSES WITH THE QUEEN ON TOP.

DOES IT SEEM CRUEL?

HUH?

I DOUBT ANYONE'D *EVER* SUSPECT SOMEONE WHO NEARLY DIED PULLING IT OFF.

THANKFULLY, NOT ONE PERSON WHO COULD NAME YOU IS STILL AROUND.

DO YOU...

...THINK THAT I'M *CRUEL?*

I INVOLVED YOU IN THIS FILTHY SCHEME...

...AND I DIDN'T EVEN GET MY HANDS DIRTY.

WHAT KINDA QUESTION'S *THAT* FOR THE GUY WHO KILLED A HUNDRED MEN?!

IDIOT!

...

...

I LEFT ALL THE DANGEROUS, TAXING WORK TO YOU...

...PART OF THE PATH TO YOUR DREAM?

YOU BELIEVE THAT, DON'T YOU?

AIN'T THIS...

NOW, OF ALL TIMES...

SO WHAT'S WITH THIS CRAP?

YOU'RE RIGHT.

...
...

DEAD MEN DON'T WALK AROUND.

LET'S HEAD BACK!

YOU GOTTA GET BACK QUICK SO CASCA AND THE OTHERS'LL STOP WORRYIN'.

YOU WERE DEAD, SO YOU *PROB'LY* DON'T KNOW.

EH?

CASCA SHOWED UP AT THE CELEBRATION WEARIN' A *DRESS.*

REALLY?!

IT'S *QUITE* A SIGHT TO SEE...

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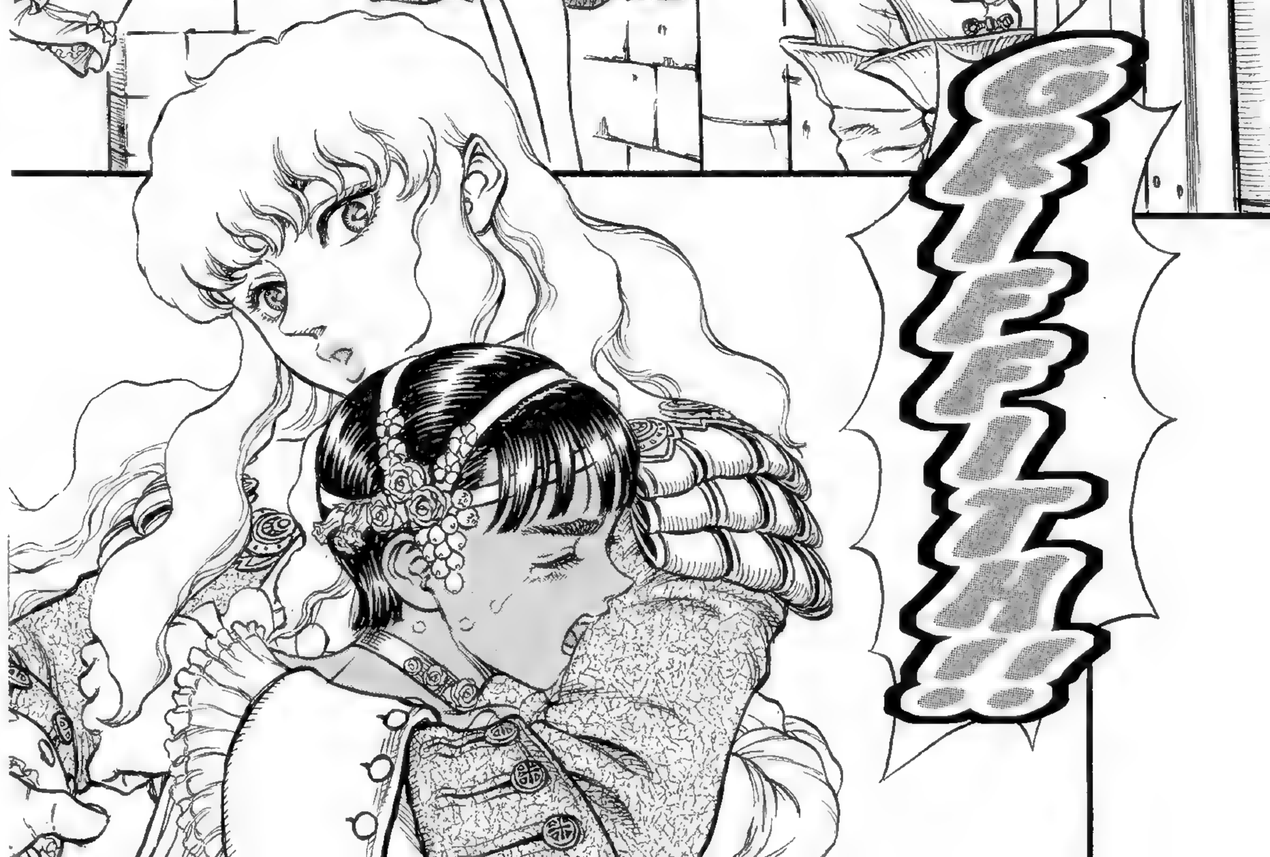
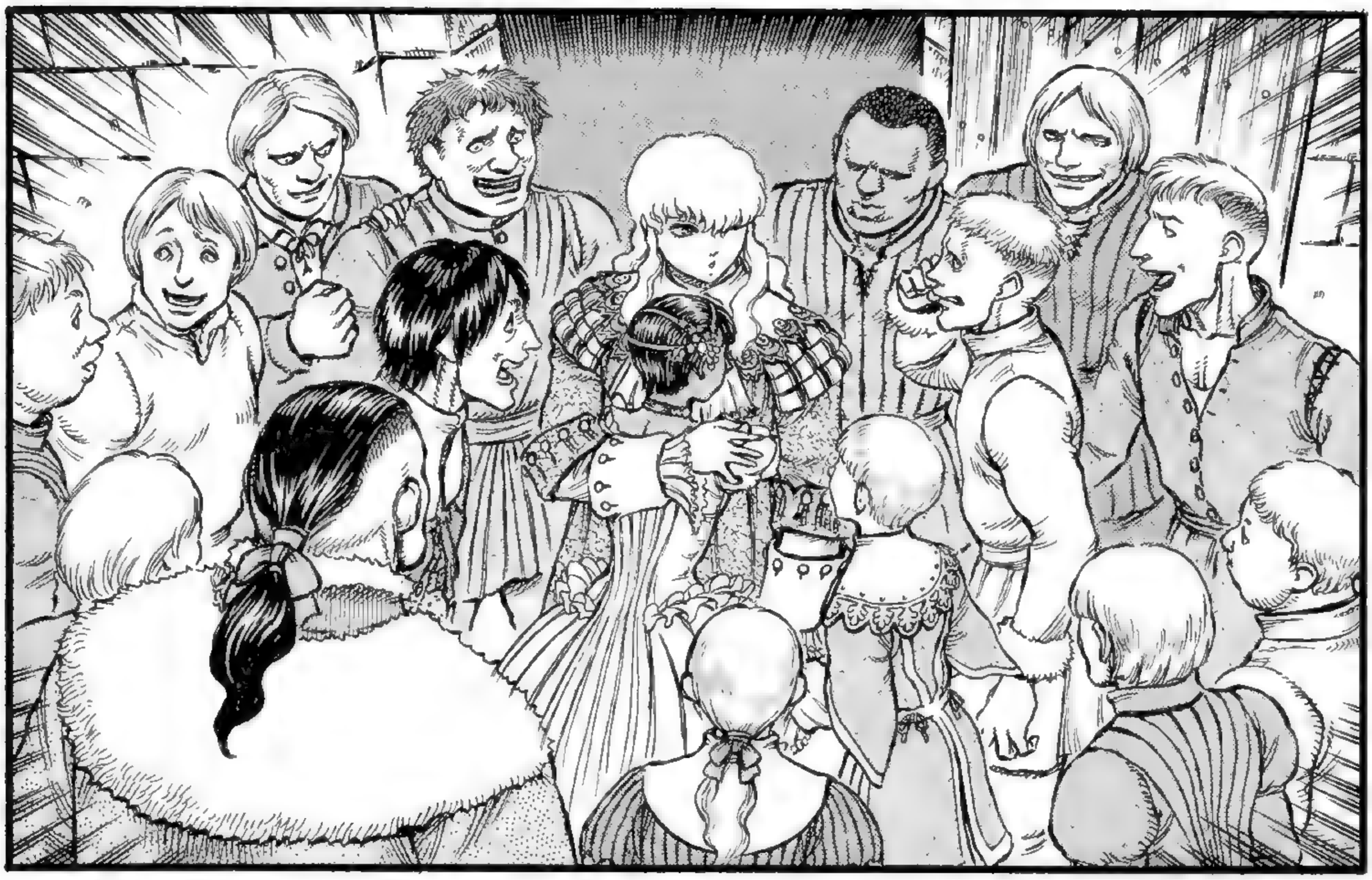
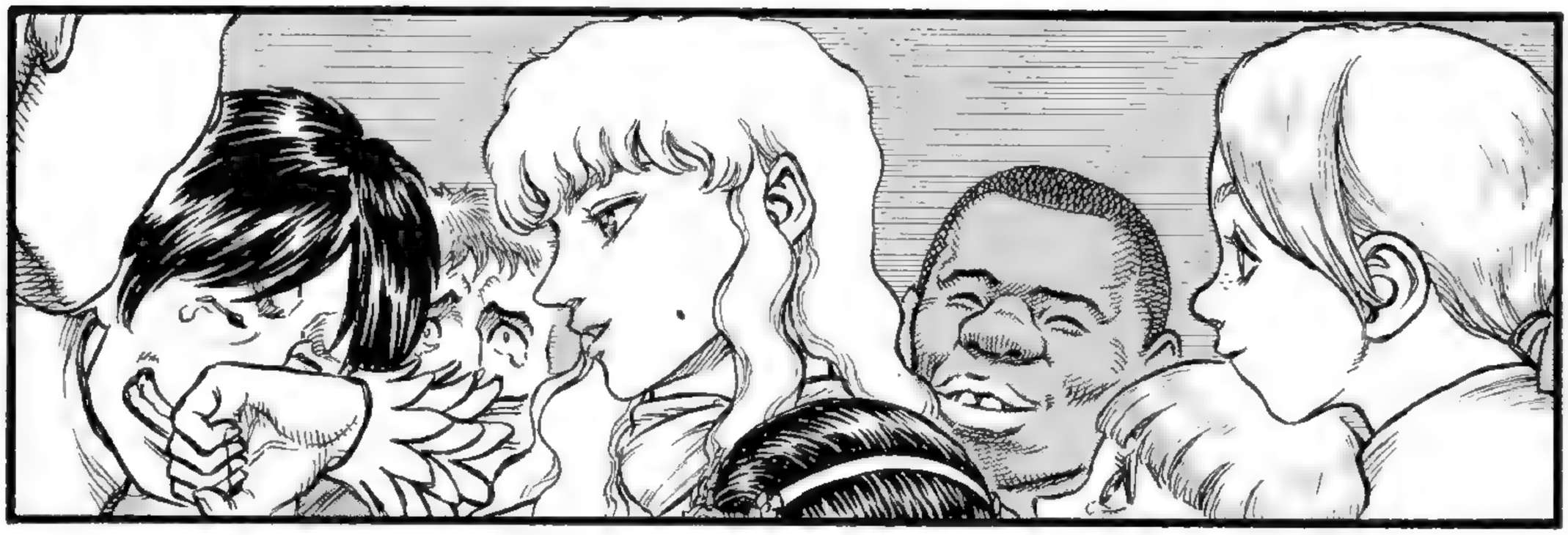
ONE SNOWY NIGHT

GRIFFITH .....?


GRIFFITH





I MUST HAVE REALLY WORRIED YOU, CASCA.

GRIFB
SHIFB
SHIFB

IT WAS *TERRIBLE*. CASCA HASN'T BEEN HERSELF EVER SINCE YOU FAINTED, GRIFFITH.

グスッ!

SORRY.

EH ...?

THIS DRESS LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.

SEVERAL DAYS LATER, THE QUEEN'S ROYAL FUNERAL WAS HELD IN A SPLENDID YET SOLEMN MANNER.

...SEEKING TO OBSTRUCT THE MIDLAND-CHUDER ARMISTICE AGREEMENT.

...FELL INTO THE REALM OF WHISPERED RUMOR. IT WAS SAID THAT IT HAD BEEN THE WORK OF CHUDER HARD-LINERS OR POSSIBLY AN ASSASSIN FROM A THIRD COUNTRY...

THE ENIGMATIC DEATHS OF THE QUEEN AND THE CONSERVATIVE MINISTERS, ALONG WITH THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF COUNT GRIFFITH ON THE SAME NIGHT...

...BUT NOT ENOUGH CLUES WERE EVER FOUND TO EXPLAIN THE FACTS OF THE SITUATION...

THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE REMAINS OF SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS THOUGHT POSSIBLY TO BE CONNECTED TO THE INCIDENTS WERE DISCOVERED OUTSIDE WINDHAM CASTLE...

...VANISHED INTO THE DARKNESS.

THE TRUTH...

ONE MONTH LATER...

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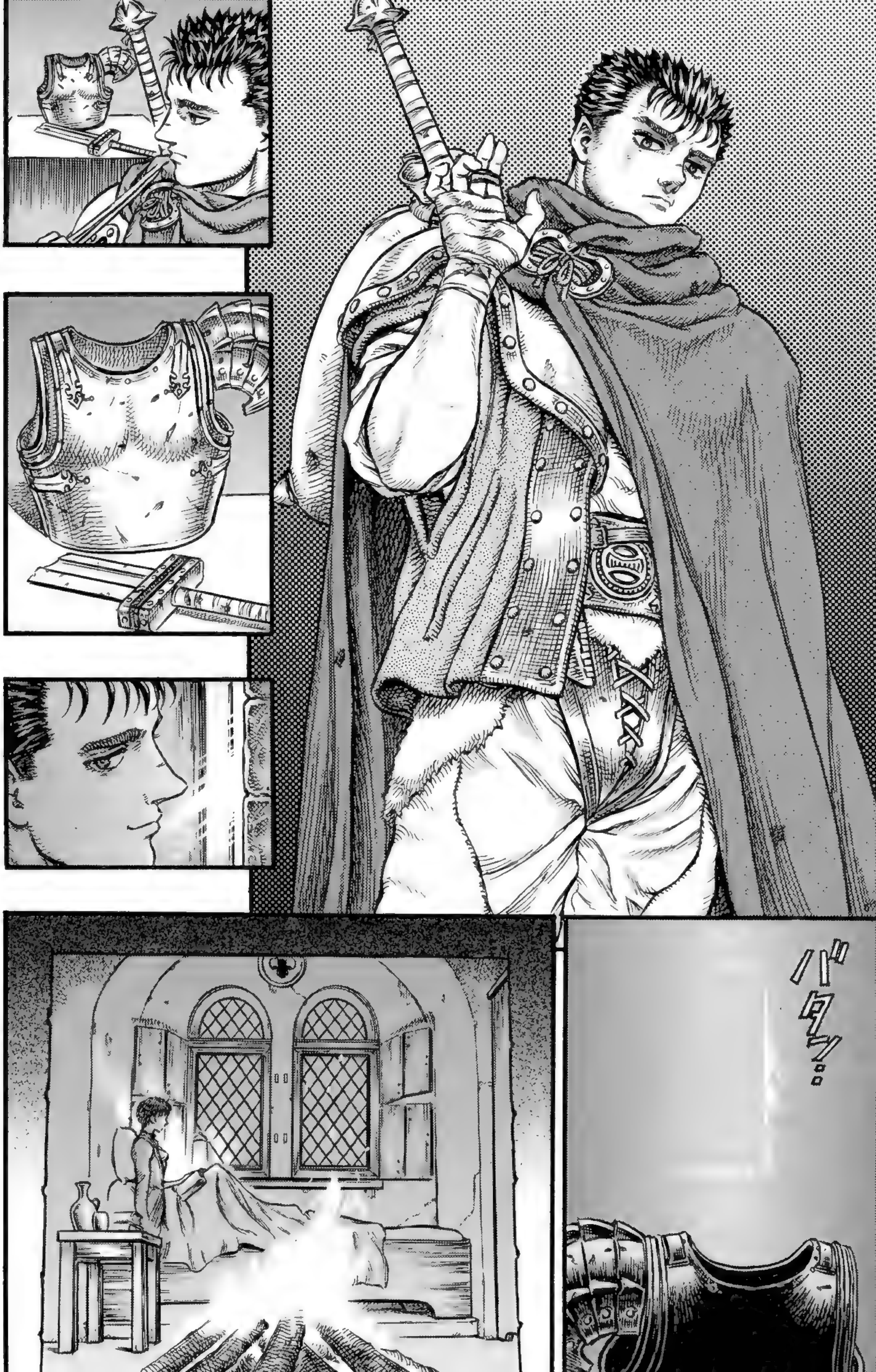
バタッ!!

!

IT'S SNOWING ...

WHO'S THAT OUT THIS LATE?

キュ…

SO, HEY! THIS CHICK WAS A WORK OF ART!

GUTS...?!

NICE OUTFIT...

WHAT'S THE RUSH ...?

BATHROOM, PROBABLY. S'COLD, AFTER ALL.

GUTS!!

CASCA? WHERE'RE YOU HEADED SO LATE?

YOU...

...GUTS.

ARE YOU ...

... LEAV- ING?

IS THAT IT?

I'VE...

...ALREADY MADE UP MY MND ABOUT IT.

W...

WAIT A MINUTE ...

.....
.....

ALL THE TROUBLE THE BAND OF THE HAWK HAS GONE THROUGH IS STARTING TO *PAY OFF*...IT ALL STARTS HERE, RIGHT?

KNOWING THAT... AT A TIME LIKE THIS...

I WAS ON BAD TERMS WITH YOU FOR A LONG TIME... BUT WE'RE COMRADES WHO'VE BRAVED DEATH TOGETHER.

I CAN'T.

BUT...!!

...BUT...

...REMAIN BURIED IN HIS DREAM LIKE THIS.

I CAN'T...

...THINGS GO WELL WITH YOU...

...AND GRIF-FITH...

I HOPE...

CORKUS. JUDEAU...

ポン!

... ...

COME TALK WITH US AWHILE.

HEY.

GRIFFITH MIGHT KEEP HIM FROM LEAVING...!!

GRIFFITH MIGHT...

GIVE IT A REST FOR NOW, CORKUS.

HEY, HEY FELLAS.

HA HA HA..

IT'S THE HAWK COMMAND-ERS!

HEY, LOOK AT 'EM!

BUT WHY, THOUGH? I MEAN, NOW ALL OF A SUDDEN...

HEY, SWEET THING!

.....
.....

I DECIDED BEFORE OUR LAST DISPATCH.

IT AIN'T SUDDEN.

THEY GAVE ME, A WANDERING MERCENARY WHO KNEW ONLY HOW TO FIGHT, MY FIRST TASTE OF *COMRADERY*...

THE HAWKS'RE DIFFERENT FROM REGULAR BANDS.

THAT'S NOT SOMETHING THE OLD YOU WOULD'VE SAID.

DISSATIS-FIED? I'VE GOT NO REASON TO BE.

ARE YOU DISSATISFIED OR SOME-THING?

EHH?

HEY, WHAT TIME'RE YOU OFF WORK?

...IT'S BEEN A BIG FESTIVAL OR SOMETHIN' ALL THIS TIME.

NO WAY I'M DISSATISFIED.

THESE THREE YEARS REALLY HAVE BEEN FUN.

IT FEELS LIKE...

WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME TRYIN' MY HAND AT A GIRL OR TWO IN A BAR?!

I'M SIR CORKUS. UNIT COMMANDER IN THE BAND OF THE HAWK!!

THEN WHY IN THE WORLD...

IT'S MARY ...

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

HUHH?

SHUT IT!!

...CORKUS, DO YOU MIND?

THEN IT'S SMOOTH SAILIN' LIVIN' IN THE COURT!!

TO TOP IT OFF, WE'RE GONNA BE JOININ' THE *NOBLES* PRETTY SOON!!

IF YOU WALK DOWN THE STREET, KIDS AND WOMEN SWARM YOU! AND *NO WONDER!* WE'RE THE *HEROES* OF THE KINGDOM!!

ANY BAR OR INN IN TOWN! YOU SAY YOU'RE A HAWK COMMANDER AT ANY SHOP IN WINDHAM AND IT'S A *FREE RIDE!*

SO LONG TO THOSE MUSTY BARRACKS!! IF THINGS GO WELL WE COULD BE *CASTLE LORDS!!*

COMMONERS LIKE US COULDN'T EVEN *DREAM* OF IT!

NORMALLY WE COULD NEVER HAVE GOTTEN *ANY* OF THIS!

WE FINALLY MADE IT!!

I CAN'T TELL YA HOW MANY BLOOD-STAINED MEMORIES I HAVE OF ENEMY SWORDS NEARLY TAKIN' MY HEAD OFF!! WITH ONE FOOT PLANTED IN THE GRAVE!!

BUT WE GOT IT!!

JUST LIKE YOU WERE THROWIN' OFF OLD CLOTHES... YOU ARE UNBELIEVABLY *THICK!* WHAT ARE YOU, SCREWED IN THE HEAD?

...AND YOU WANNA GO AND THROW *ALL* THAT AWAY.

A GUY LIKE YOU WHO ONLY KNOWS HOW TO *KILL* PEOPLE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DANCE WITH LADIES AT PARTIES ANYWAY, RIGHT?!

FEH!

YOU CAN SWING A SWORD, BUT YOU CAN'T SWING A WOMAN, HUH?!

CORKUS .....

I CAN'T...

...DO ANYTHING BUT *SWING* MY SWORD.

IT'S LIKE YOU SAID.

I HAVEN'T LEARNED ANYTHING OFF THE BATTLEFIELD *SINCE* THEN--AND I HAVEN'T *TRIED* TO LEARN.

KILLING TO SURVIVE...

WHEN I FIRST KILLED A MAN, I WAS A KID WHO STILL DIDN'T KNOW RIGHT FROM LEFT.

THERE WAS NOTHING ELSE I COULD DO. THAT WAS *EVERYTHING.*

...HAD LOOKED MY WAY...

...ANY-ONE...

IF ONE PERSON ...

...IT WAS ALL RIGHT.

...BUT...

IT WAS JUST SOMETHIN' OF A CHILDISH COMPLAINT.

...THAT *WOULDN'T* DO ME ANY GOOD IN TRYIN' TO SURVIVE.

BUT WANDERING THE BATTLEFIELDS MADE ME REALIZE...

I FOUND SOMEONE I REALLY WANTED...

INCIDENTALLY...

EVEN SO...

...TO HAVE LOOK AT ME.

...NO.

SOMETHING ABOUT HIM MADE YOU...

...THINK IT COULD HAPPEN.

YET HE WAS TRYING TO TAKE HOLD OF EVERY-THING.

HE *DIDN'T* HAVE ANYTHING.

THAT'S WHY...

...THERE'S NO ROOM AT HIS SIDE FOR THE *WEAK.*

...BUT IN ORDER FOR HIM TO AIM SO HIGH...

...HE HAS TO ALWAYS *HONE* HIMSELF TO THE VERY LIMIT.

...FROM INSIDE HIS DREAM.

...LOOKING UP AT HIM...

AND I'VE HAD ENOUGH...

THE MORE CLEAR THAT BECOMES...

BUT STRANGELY ...

...THE MORE DAZZLING HE IS IN MY EYES...

...BY ATTAINING SOMETHING OF MY OWN.

...WANT TO STAND BESIDE HIM...

I...

...THE ONLY ONE I CAN'T STAND LOOKING DOWN ON ME.

HE'S...

HE'S...

I...

...WANT TO STAND BESIDE HIM...

...THE ONLY ONE I CAN'T STAND LOOKING DOWN ON ME.

...BY ATTAINING SOMETHING OF MY OWN.

ベルセルク

旅立ちの朝(1)

THE MORNING DEPARTURE, CHAPTER 1

THAT'S SOMETHIN' A KID WOULD SAY!!

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!!

.....
.....

...GRIFFITH?

HEH...

STAND BESIDE...

AND YOU'RE CAPTAIN OF THE HAWK'S RAIDERS, A POSITION YOU DON'T *DESERVE*!!

ALL YOU KNOW HOW TO DO IS KILL!!

ALL THAT'S POSSIBLE *BECAUSE* YOU MET GRIFFITH!!

HE'S DIFFERENT FROM US!!

HE'S SPECIAL!!

DON'T YOU GET IT?!

THUD

WHAT I WANT IS SOMETHING ELSE...

SOMETHING I CAN WIN...

...FOR MYSELF.

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN STUFF LIKE CLASS OR RANK.

THAT'S WHY YOU SOUND LIKE A *BRAT!!*

IF SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT WERE EASY TO FIND, NO ONE'D *EVER* HAVE TO SUFFER!!

HAH!

SOME-THING YOU CAN WIN FOR YOUR-SELF?!

NORMAL PEOPLE USE THEIR OWN STRENGTH AND TALENTS TO COME TO TERMS WITH THEIR REAL LIVES AND MAKE DO THE BEST THEY CAN!!

EVEN IF YOU'RE *LUCKY* ENOUGH TO FIND IT, ONLY A SMALL HANDFUL OF PEOPLE GET TO BE *WINNERS!!*

THERE'S PLENTY OUT THERE WHO SAY ALL YOU NEED IS A *DREAM!!* IT MAKES ME *SICK* TO LOOK AT *ASSHOLES* LIKE THAT!!

COR-KUS...

YOU MEAN ...

...

AN UNREALIZED DREAM'S JUST A LOAD OF *CRAP!* STRAIGHT OUTTA THE *HORSE'S ASS!*

ALL YOU NEED'S A DREAM, HUH? THAT'S SOMETHING *WEAKLINGS* WHO CAN'T FACE THE *TRUTH* SAY!

...LIKE THAT?

YOU DON'T HAVE SOME-THING...

I CAN'T STAND TO HANG WITH THE BIG *BABY* ANYMORE!

JUDEAU, I'M *DONE* FOR THE NIGHT.

KEH!

THE HELL WITH THIS!

...IN SPITE OF ALL THAT, HE USED TO LEAD A BAND OF THIEVES.

PUT IT ON MY TAB!!

COMMAN-DER, YOUR BILL...

...

WHILE NO BIG DEAL...

SHOO! SHOO!

MAYBE THERE WAS SOMETHING HE TOO WANTED TO WIN FOR HIMSELF.

WELL, IT WAS ONLY ABOUT TEN MEN, AND TIMES WERE TOUGH. THEY CROSSED THE BAND OF THE HAWK AND SURE ENOUGH GOT PUT IN THEIR PLACE.

.....
.....

EVER SINCE THEN, HE'S BEEN ONE OF OURS.

I'M BETTER THAN AVERAGE WITH SWORDS AND KNIVES...

キリキリ

AND WITHOUT BOASTING, I HAVE A PRETTY QUICK WIT TOO.

AS FOR ME...

...I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A JACK OF ALL TRADES.

...I'VE NEVER BEEN THE *BEST* AT ANYTHING.

BUT...

ドン

THERE'S NOBODY ...

...WHO NEVER WANTED *SOME-THING.*

...IF I *COULDN'T* BE THE BEST, I'D FLY IN THE WAKE OF THE ONE WHO *SEEMS* THE BEST.

THAT'S WHY I DECIDED...

WELL, FROM ONE PERSPEC-TIVE...

...THAT'S *NOT* ALL *TRUE.*

I'M PRETTY HAPPY WITH THINGS...

DON'T GET ME WRONG, THOUGH.

...AND MY OWN SITUATION.

...I WONDER IF SOME-THING'S WRONG?

...AND THE PROMISE OF PEERAGE AND KNIGHTHOOD DANGLING BEFORE YOUR EYES, ALL FOR SOME VAGUE *THING*...

TO SACRIFICE YOUR STATUS AS CAPTAIN OF THE RAIDERS ...

...I'M SURE YOU COULD SPEND YOUR WHOLE LIFE CHASING ONE.

WIN OR LOSE...

DREAMS.

BUT MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH *ALL* MEN...

...I SAID YOU'D FIND A PLACE TO BELONG HERE.

THAT DAY, THREE YEARS AGO...

...I WAS *WRONG.*

I GUESS...

I'LL SEE YOU OFF.

I HOPE YOU FIND IT.

YOUR... *SOMETHING.*

EH?

HEY, I DO WANNA ASK YOU ONE THING.

WHAT'S *THAT* SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

WHAT'S UP WITH *YOU AND CASCA?*

... HAPPENED WITH HER.

WELL ... A LOT'S...

...IT'S LIKE YOU'VE GOTTEN *A LOT* CLOSER.

EVER SINCE YOU TWO FELL OFF THAT CLIFF...

...

HMMM...

WHAT'S *THAT* LOOK FOR?

YOU REALLY THINK SO?

HUH?

WHY NOT...

...TRY YOUR LUCK WITH HER?

...SHE AND GRIFFITH...

EVERY OLD DOG IN THE HAWK KNOWS THAT...

WHAT MADE YOU SAY *THAT?!*

THAT WAS *RANDOM!!*

HOLD UP!!

HUH...?

...CAN'T BE WITH *GRIFFITH.*

SHE... *CASCA...*

CHANCES ARE...

BUT... HE WON'T STOP.

...IS *ONE OF A KIND.*

THE *GOAL* HE PURSUES ...

LIKE YOU SAID, GRIFFITH ROSE UP FROM HAVING *NOTHING...*

...TO BE A TOP *GENERAL* OF MIDLAND.

IN THAT CASE, EVEN GRIFFITH WON'T HAVE ANY OPPORTUNITIES TO SHINE MILITARILY.

THEY SAY THE KINGDOM PROBABLY WON'T SEE WAR FOR SOME TIME.

HIS CHANCES FOR *PRO-MOTION* WILL BE *SLIM.*

THAT'S PRACTICALLY A *MIRACLE* ITSELF. ORDINARILY, YOU'D THROW YOUR HANDS UP AND CELEBRATE, WITHOUT HOPING FOR ANYTHING MORE.

...

DON'T YOU GET IT?

HE'LL NEED A TRUMP CARD.

FOR ONE LAST PUSH...

THERE'S NOTHING BEYOND THAT.

EVEN IF HE'S A GENERAL, HE'S *STILL* A SOLDIER, AFTER ALL.

...
...

GRIFFITH IS NOW THE *WHITE PHOENIX GENERAL*, MIDLAND'S HEROIC SAVIOR.

BESIDE EVEN HER HIGHNESS HE'D APPEAR *QUITE* A WORTHY COMPANION.

AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, GENERAL JULIUS, NEXT IN LINE TO THE THRONE AFTER HER HIGHNESS ...

...AND HIS SON ADONIS, WHO WAS LIKELY TO MARRY HER, ARE NOW DEAD BY THE HANDS OF ANOTHER.

IT'S THE *PRINCESS*.

CATCHING *PRINCESS CHARLOTTE* IS THE FASTEST SHORTCUT TO GRIFFITH'S AMBITION.

IT'S ALSO THE *ONLY* WAY.

GUTS, YOU...

...WERE MYSTERIOUSLY BURNED TO DEATH ON THE NIGHT OF THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON GRIFFITH.

WHAT'S MORE, THE QUEEN, WELL KNOWN WITHIN THE COURT FOR HER SEVERITY, AND SEVERAL CONSERVATIVE MINISTERS...

...

NO...

THANKS TO THAT, THE MILITARY AWARD CEREMONY IS *STILL* POST-PONED.

OH, WELL!

"DON'T TELL THE OTHERS ABOUT THIS."

"GUTS..."

"THE HAWKS ARE BOUND BY ONE FATE, AFTER ALL."

"IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T TRUST THEM."

"THEY NEED ONLY FEEL AS THOUGH WE'RE RISING UP..."

"BUT I DON'T WANT TO REVEAL TO THEM MY DIRTY SIDE..."

...THIS MEANS THOSE WHO'D *INTERFERE* WITH GRIFFITH'S *AMBITIONS* ARE ALL DEAD.

IN ANY CASE...

"TO THE END."

"YOU'RE ROUGH ENOUGH TO SHARE THIS WITH."

WELL, THAT'S PROBABLY BY HIS DESIGN... ANYWAY, THERE'S *NO WAY* HE'LL MISS THIS CHANCE.

THE PRINCESS... SHE'S IN LOVE WITH HIM.

"SO IT'S MORE THAN LOVE SHE FEELS FOR HIM..."

"AS FOR CASCA, GRIFFITH IS TRULY SPECIAL. IT GOES *BEYOND* ANY FEELINGS FOR HIM... HE RESCUED HER FROM *DESPAIR* AND GAVE HER A NEW LIFE."

"IT'S MORE LIKE *WORSHIP.*"

"THAT WOMAN CAN GRANT HIM THE THING HE MOST DESIRES, THE ONE THING CASCA HERSELF DEFINITELY CAN'T OFFER HIM."

"MOREOVER, BESIDE HIM IS THE WOMAN HE CAN'T AFFORD TO REFUSE IN FULFILLING HIS DREAM."

...BEING A WOMAN LONGING FOR A MAN SHE CAN'T *EVER* HAVE?

YET DESPITE ALL HER *EFFORTS*, CAN SHE FIND HAPPI-NESS...

...SHOULDN'T SHE WANT TO BE HELD BY HIM?

IF SHE *LOVES* HIM...

.....
.....

...WHAT ABOUT CASCA?

SO...

...DEALING WITH THAT.

THAT MUST BE UNBEARABLE...

SHE'S A FINE WOMAN.

...LIKE TO HOLD HER?

EVER THINK YOU'D...

SHE'S A LOT BETTER THAN THOSE NOBLE GIRLS WHO ONLY KNOW HOW TO DRESS UP.

I...
...
...
...

...
...

...LESS A WOMAN, I SEE HER AS...

...A COM-RADE.

BUT...

SO...?

"...ON THE BATTLE-FIELD."

"IT'S HARD TO FIND A WOMAN YOU CAN TRUST TO WATCH YOUR BACK..."

THAT'S NOT IT...

...

...NO.

THAT'S WHY...

...RIGHT NOW...

"THE ONE WHO HAS HER EYE..."

"...IS GRIFFITH."

...I'M NO GOOD FOR HER...

...LIKE THIS.

.....
.....

GOTCHA.

THIS IS FAR ENOUGH.

FOR NOW...

...MY HANDS ARE FULL WITH JUST *ME.*

IT REALLY *SEEMED* THERE WAS *HOPE* FOR YOU, THOUGH.

AH!

HOW COULD YOU, GUTS?!

ガッ!

LEAVING WITHOUT SAYING ANY-THING!!

YOU GUYS ...

DON'T YOU LIKE... THE BAND OF THE HAWK?!

WHY?!

RICKERT ...

!

!!

THE MORNING DEPARTURE (1): END

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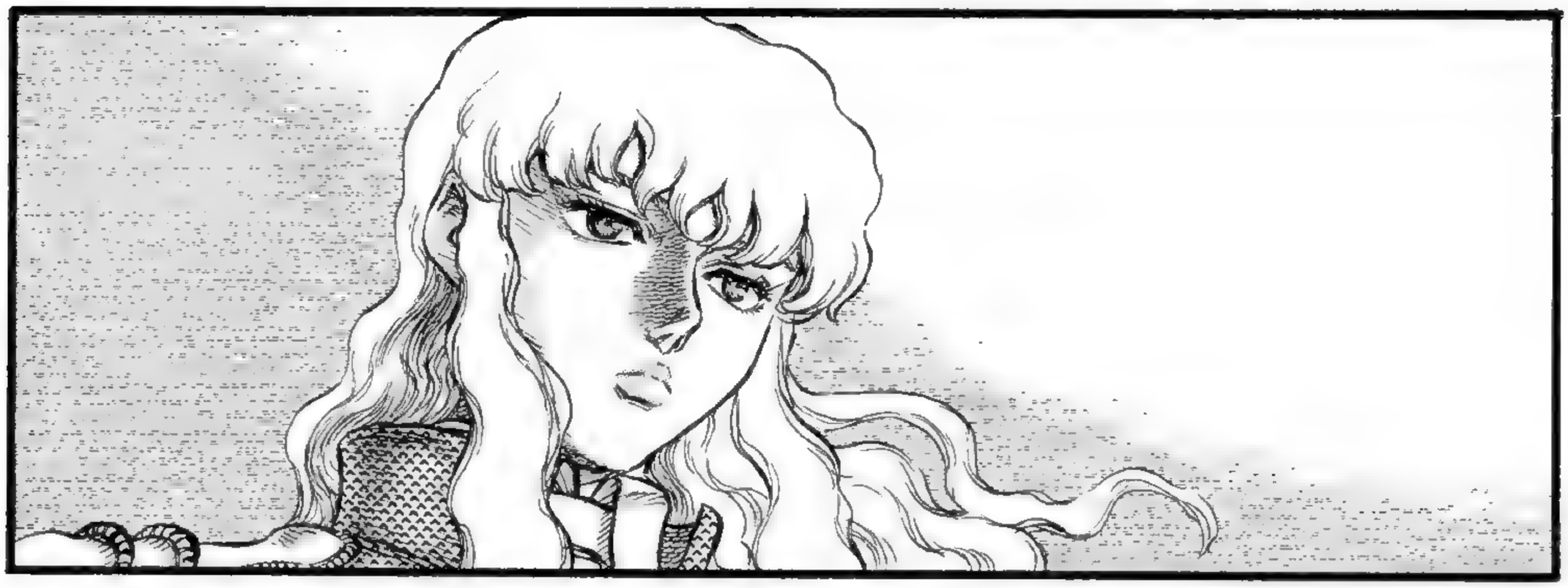
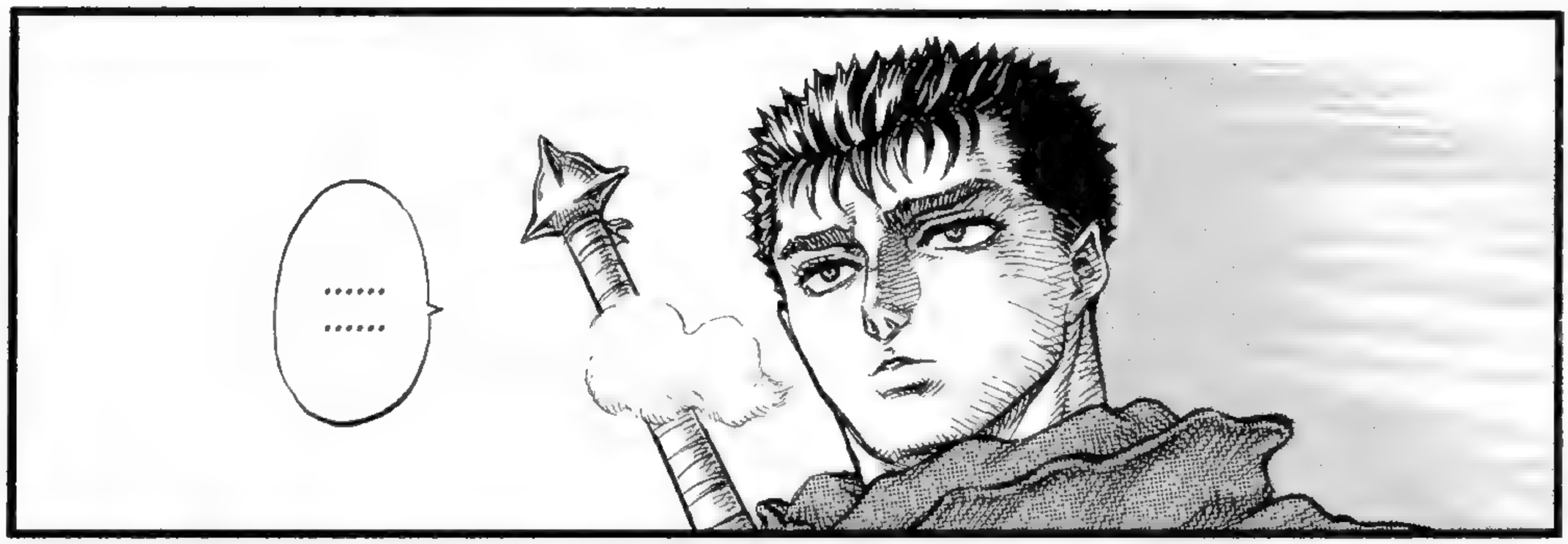
旅立ちの朝(2)

THE MORNING DEPARTURE, CHAPTER 2

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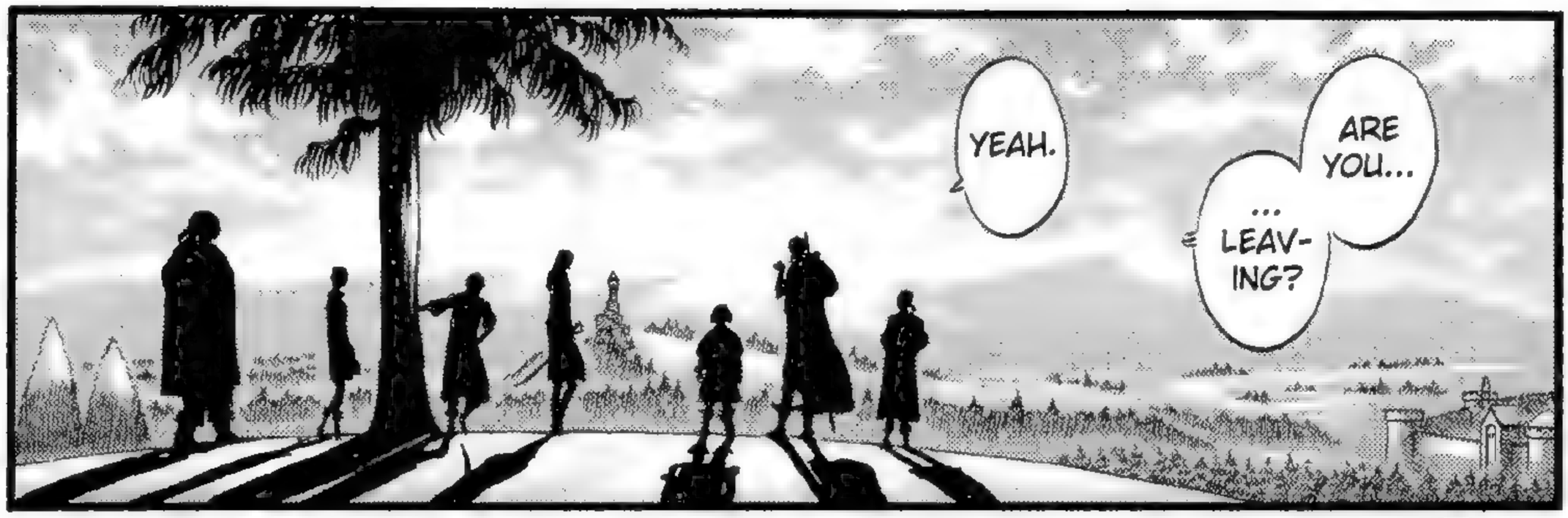

YEAH.
ARE YOU...
...LEAV-ING?

.....
.....
...THE BAND OF THE HAWK?
YOU MEAN TO QUIT...

I'M SORRY.....

CUT IT OUT, RICKERT.

TELL US WHY!!

THAT DOESN'T EXPLAIN ANY-THING!!

WHY WOULD YOU THROW THAT AWAY?!

AREN'T THE *HAWKS* JUST LIKE *FAMILY* TO YOU, GUTS?!

BUT, NO...

BUT...

HUSH, AND LET HIM GO.

IT'S A MAN'S DECISION.

GUTS IS THE RAIDERS' CAPTAIN... HE'S VITAL!!

TH-THIS IS BAD FOR ALL OF US, RIGHT?!

WE CAN'T LET HIM LEAVE!!

HEY! SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS, LISTEN UP!

WE WERE INVINCIBLE *BEFORE* HE JOINED!! HE AIN'T THE ONLY REASON THE HAWKS GOT SO *STRONG*!!

KEH!

SHUT UP, YOU!!

YEAH, BUT--!

ガッ!!

TO BE HONEST, I AIMED MY BOWGUN AT YOUR BACK MORE THAN JUST ONCE OR TWICE IN BATTLE.

I ALWAYS *HATED* YOU, PAL!

FROM THE *START!*

THAT STONE COLD...

...INTENSE, SCOWLIN' MUG...

...GETS UNDER MY SKIN LIKE NOTHIN' ELSE!!

MORON.

...

...

IT'S THAT *FACE.*

NOW I *FINALLY* SEE WHY YOU...

HEH ...

...PISS ME OFF SO MUCH.

DON'T BE SO PROUD!!!

LIKE *YOU'RE* THE ONLY ONE WHO'S SPECIAL!!

LIKE YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WALKIN' SOME PATH OF PROFOUND *SUFFERIN'* THAT NO ONE UNDER-STANDS!!

THAT *FACE*... LIKE YOU'RE IN SOME KINDA *AGONY* OR *SOMETHIN'*!!

I DON'T BUY IT.

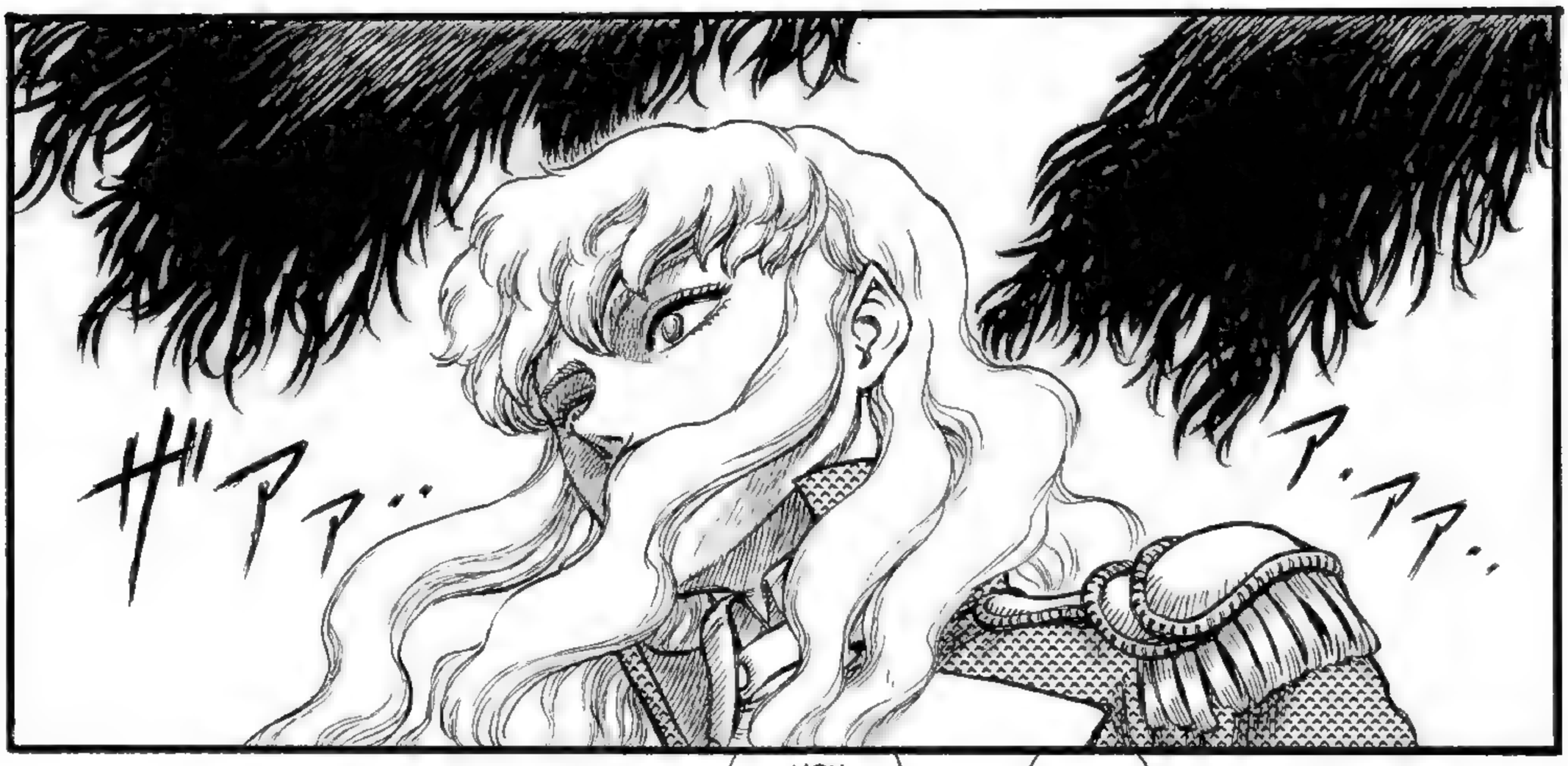
YOU AIN'T *SPECIAL*.

...NEVER BECOME GRIFFITH.

YOU CAN...

...

!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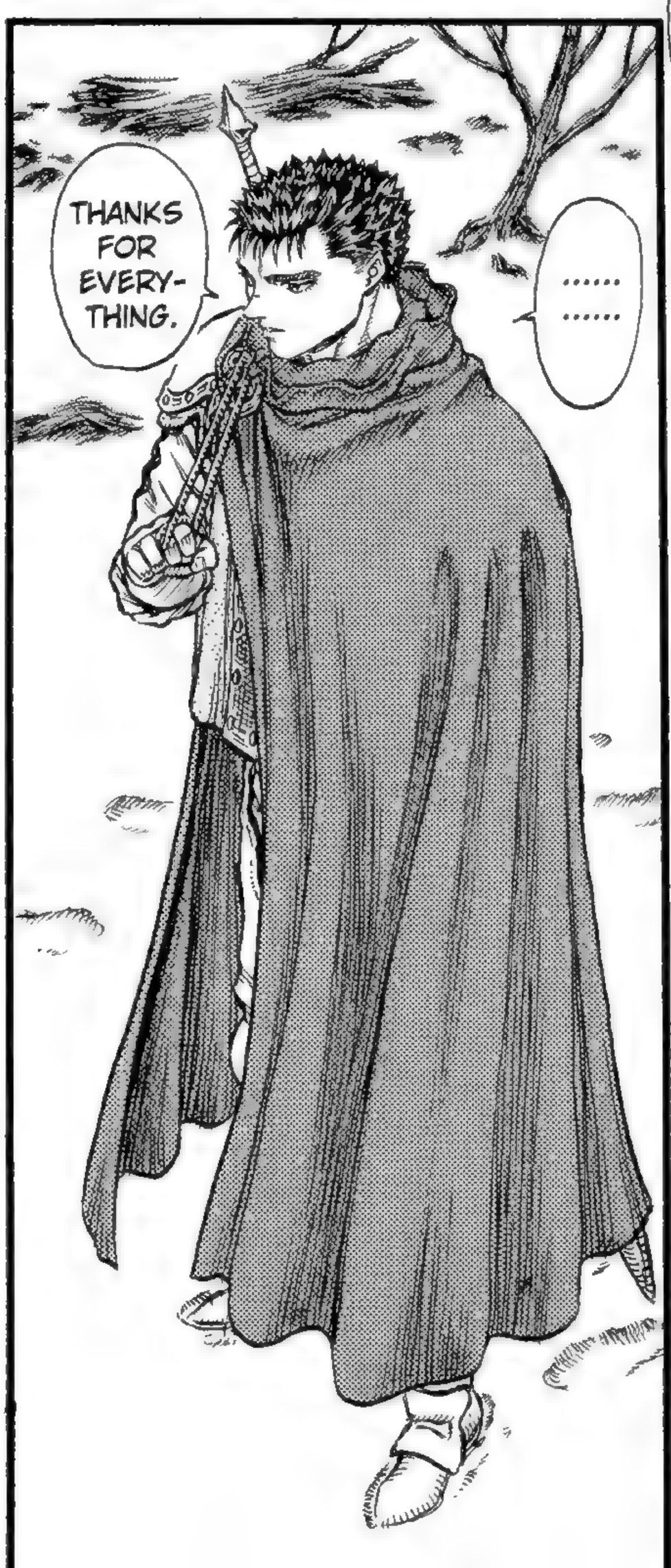
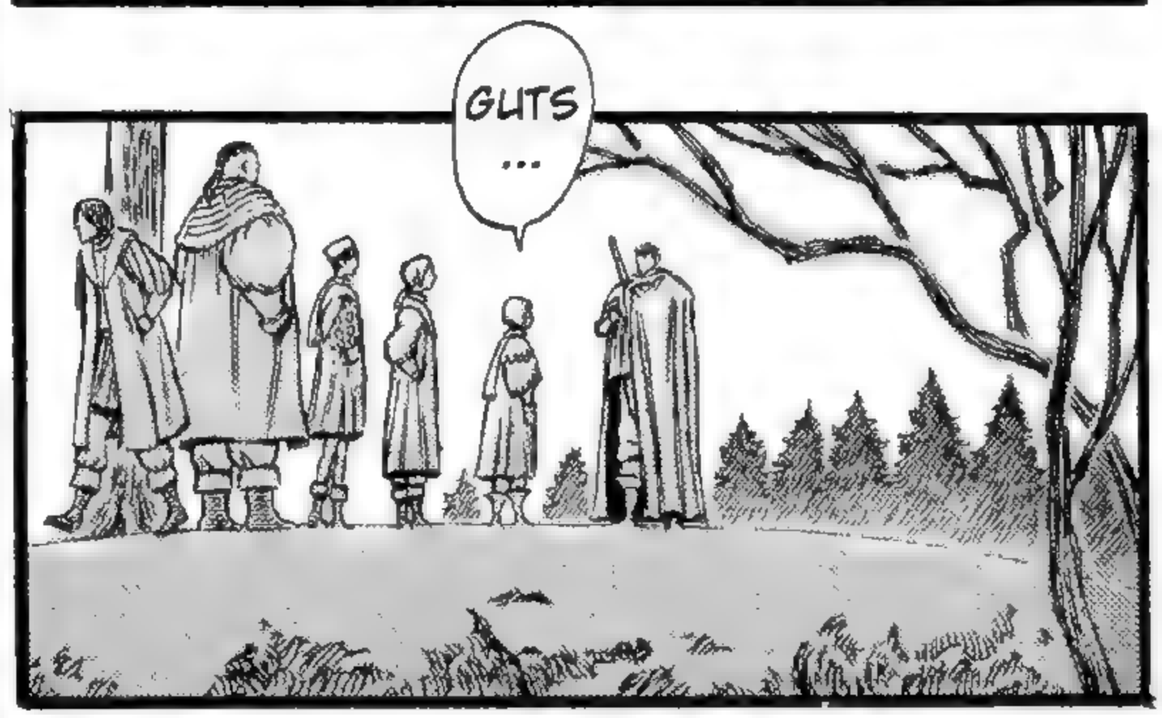

THANKS FOR EVERY-THING.
.....
.....

...YOU BETTER MAKE SURE YOU WATCH YOUR BACK!
IF WE MEET AGAIN ON SOME BATTLE-FIELD...

HEH.
NOW THAT YOU'RE NO LONGER ONE OF THE HAWKS...

.....
.....


GUTS
...

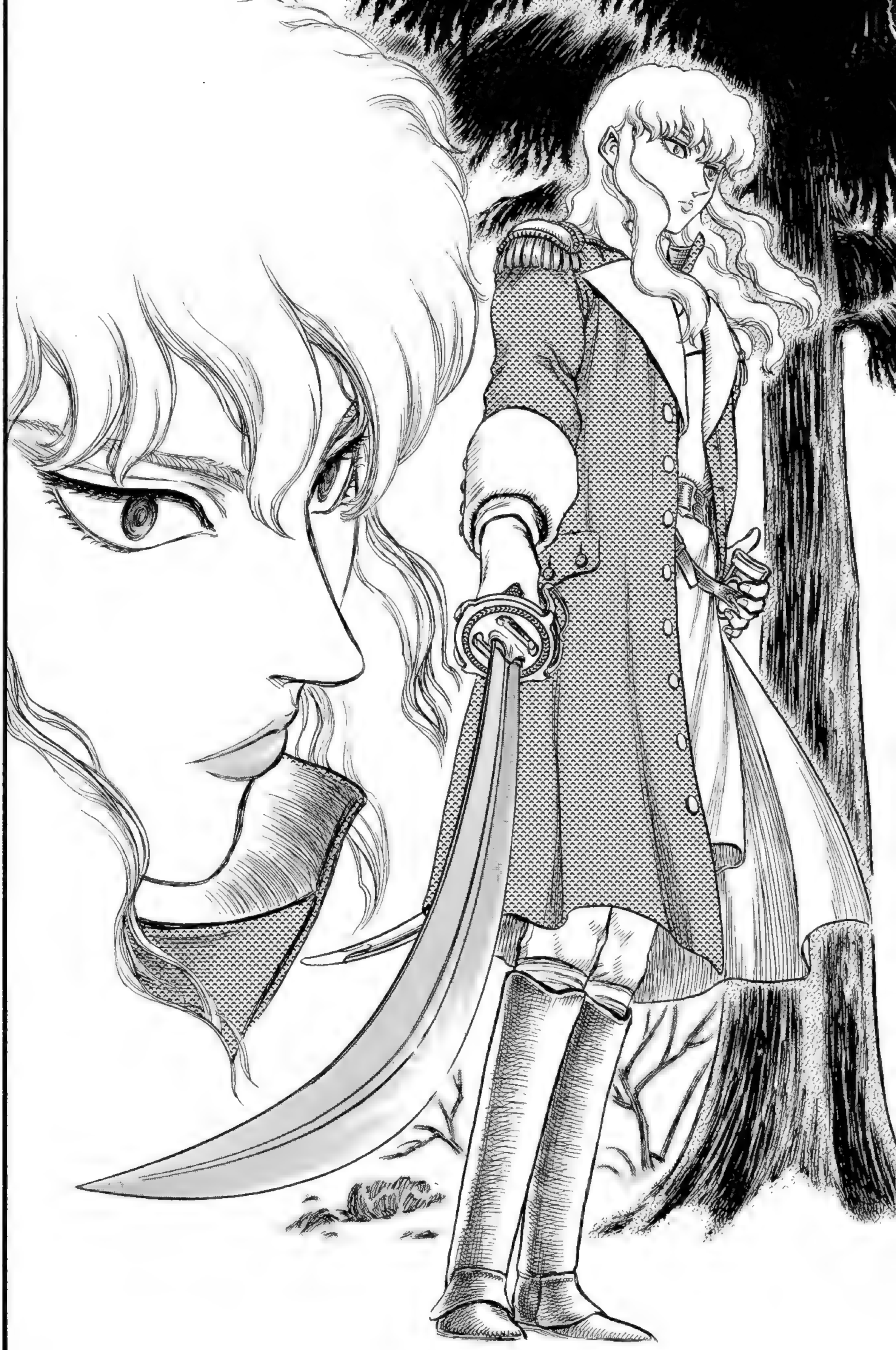
"CASCA..."

"...CAN'T BE WITH GRIFFITH. CHANCES ARE..."

"...WHY NOT TRY YOUR LUCK WITH HER?"

"EVER THINK..."

"...YOU'D LIKE TO HOLD HER?"



GRIFFITH
.....
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU THEN...
...THAT YOU BELONG TO ME.

YOUR FIGHT AND YOUR DEATH, I HOLD BOTH.

I WON YOU WITH THIS.

IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE MY GRASP, THEN IT'LL BE THE SAME AS THAT TIME...

WREST YOURSELF AWAY BY YOUR SWORD.

...
...

GRIFFITH
...!!

!

...AND SAY "TAKE CARE"?

...GUESS WE CAN'T JUST SMILE...

YOU'RE REALLY SERIOUS ...

COMRADES ARE GONNA CROSS SWORDS?!

ARE YOU TWO SERI-OUS?!

GRIFFITH, IF YOU SHEATHE YOUR SWORD WE CAN TALK!!

...WAIT!!

W...

.....
...!!

ビュン!!

GET BACK, CASCA.

...!!

DON'T GET IN OUR WAY.

HEHEH ... SERVES HIM RIGHT.

THEY HAVE TO DO THIS, NOW...

...

ガッ

!

IF YOU REALLY DO THIS, BOTH OF YOU ...!!

WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING ?!

P-PIPPIN?! WHAT'RE YOU--?! LET ME...!!

YUP YUP.

DID YOU FORGET, LIVING LUXURIOUSLY AMONG THE REGULAR ARMY? WHAT'S TAKEN BY THE SWORD MUST BE RECOVERED BY IT. THAT'S THE MERCEN-ARY'S... OUR *IRONCLAD* RULE, ISN'T IT?

THAT'S BEEN OUR WAY SINCE EVEN *BEFORE* COMING TO MIDLAND.

BUT...

SHE'S CHANGED, TOO...

THIS IS A *SWORD-FIGHT!!*

IF WE DON'T STOP THEM...!!

WHAT'S *WRONG* WITH ALL OF YOU?!

...WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO WITHOUT SWORDS ANYWAY?

THIS IS THEIR BUSINESS. IT'S NOT FOR US TO INTERFERE.

BUT...

AND YOU KNOW THAT'S TRUE.

YEAH, BUT...!!

MERCEN-ARIES HAVE THEIR OWN WAY OF DOING THINGS.

...IS SHE HERSELF EVEN AWARE THAT SHE'S BEGUN TO CHANGE?

I BET SHE WOULDN'T EVEN HAVE FALTERED AT LOSING HER OWN LIFE IF IT HAD BEEN GRIFFITH'S WILL.

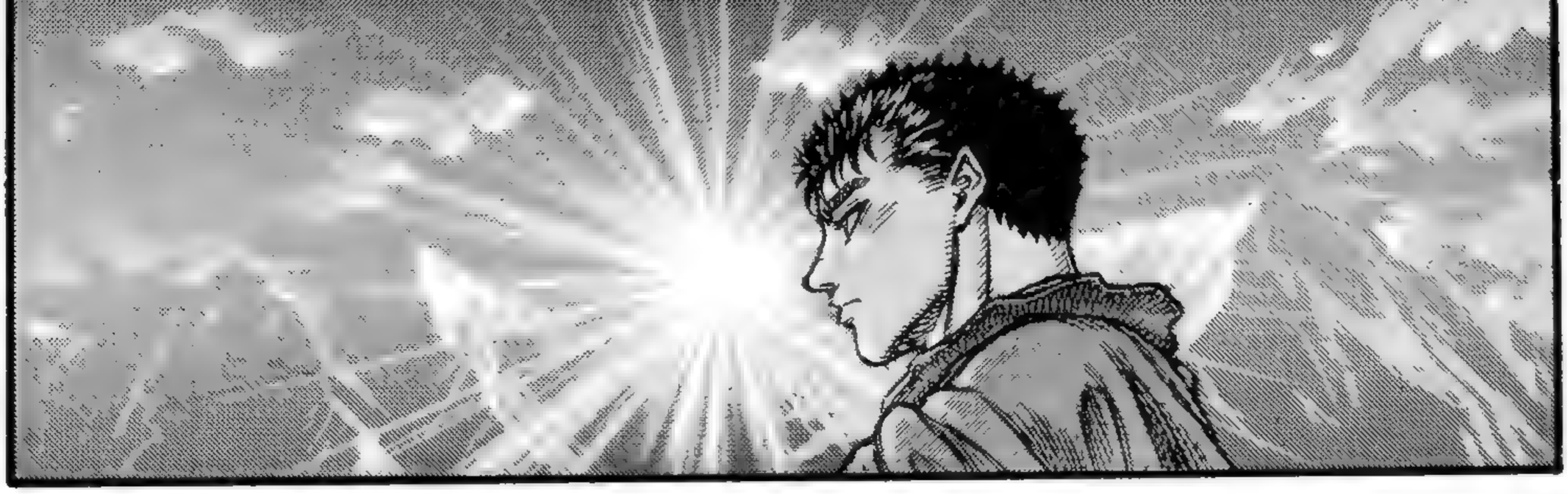
THE OLD CASCA WOULD HAVE NEVER CARED EVEN IF IT CAME DOWN TO COMRADES GETTING HURT.

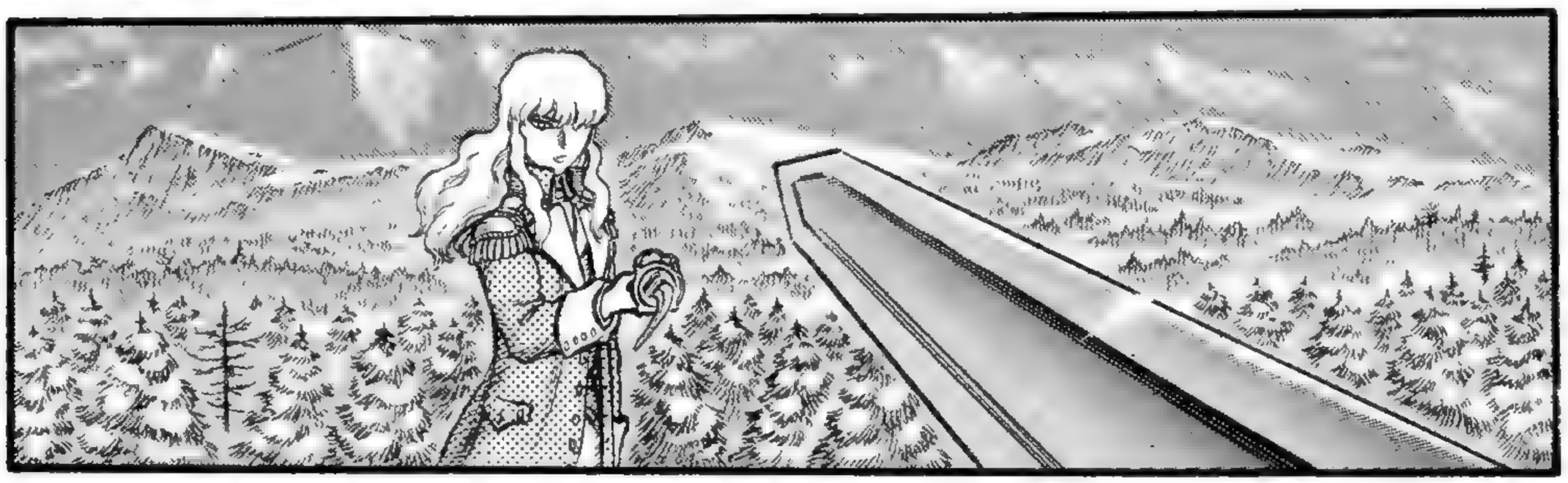
TO CASCA, HIS WORD WAS GOSPEL.

BUT...

NO.

MAYBE THAT'S STILL THE TRUTH...





SOMEONE WHO WOULD NEVER DEPEND UPON ANOTHER'S DREAM... SOMEONE WHO WOULDN'T BE COMPELLED BY ANYONE, BUT WOULD DETERMINE AND PURSUE HIS OWN REASON TO LIVE...

YOUR EXPECTATIONS-- YOUR CONFIDENCE IN ME AS YOUR SOLDIER IS VANISHING INTO THIN AIR, SO I CAN'T COMPLAIN IF YOU RESENT ME.

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE STARING DOWN AN ENEMY. MAKES SENSE...

BUT STILL...

...EVEN IF...

...I'M HATED OR TREATED LIKE A TRAITOR...

...TO GO.

...I HAVE...

THAT'S WHY...

AND SHOULD ANYONE TRAMPLE THAT DREAM, YOU WOULD OPPOSE HIM BODY AND SOUL...EVEN IF THE THREAT WERE ME, MYSELF...

WHAT I THINK A FRIEND IS, IS THAT... ONE WHO IS MY "EQUAL."

SO THAT'S WHY...

HE'S EXPOSED HIMSELF TO DANGER MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE BAND OF THE HAWK... GRIFFITH IS CERTAINLY A GENIUS WHEN IT COMES TO SWORD TECHNIQUE...

THESE PAST THREE YEARS GUTS HAS CUT HIS OWN PATH THROUGH THE BATTLEFIELD AS CAPTAIN OF THE RAIDERS.

MAYBE LOSIN' AN ARM'LL WAKE HIS ASS UP.

HEH!

WILL IT BE THAT SIMPLE?

...BUT GUTS' SKILLS HAVE BEEN SO WELL HONED ON THE LINE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH THAT YOU COULD SAY HIS IS A SWORD OF CARNAGE!!

SURE ENOUGH, GRIFFITH'S FACE LACKS ITS USUAL COMPOSURE ...

THEIR STRENGTH IS EQUALLY MATCHED!!

THE MORNING DEPARTURE (2): END

ベルセルク

ベルセルク

THE MORNING DEPARTURE, CHAPTER 3

旅立ちの朝(3)

I'M FEELING STRANGELY CALM.

IT'S ODD.

YET I'M UP AGAINST GRIFFITH ...

SO THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DROP MY GUARD.

THREE YEARS AGO, THAT DAY...

...WAS LIKE THIS ONE.

THIS SAYS TO ME...

...I'M STILL WORTH SPILLIN' BLOOD OVER IN YOUR EYES.

FINE BY ME.

IT ALL STARTED WITH A DUEL, NOW IT ENDS WITH ONE...

IT'S MUCH MORE FITTING THAN SOME HALF-HEARTED FAREWELL.

HE'S BECOME MUCH STRONGER THESE PAST THREE YEARS!!

UNFATHOM-ABLY...!!

...
...

GUTS IS STRONG!!

YES.

ギュッ

THEN EVERYTHING WILL STAY AS IT HAS BEEN.....

I'M SURE GRIFFITH CAN STOP HIM!!

GRIFFITH CAN!!

EVEN SO, IT'S GRIFFITH...

BUT THEN...

IS THAT...

...MY WISH?

...

...DO I WANT HIM...

...TO STAY?

DO I WANT...

I CAN'T SENSE YOUR TYPICAL BRAZEN FIGHTING SPIRIT. YOUR EYES REMAIN CALM.

...
...

SO THAT'S HOW FIRM YOU ARE IN YOUR RESOLVE.

AND YET, THEY'RE POISED, DEVOID OF PRECARIOUS-NESS.

IS THIS...

DO YOU WANT TO GO?!

...HOW BADLY YOU WANT TO LEAVE MY GRASP?!

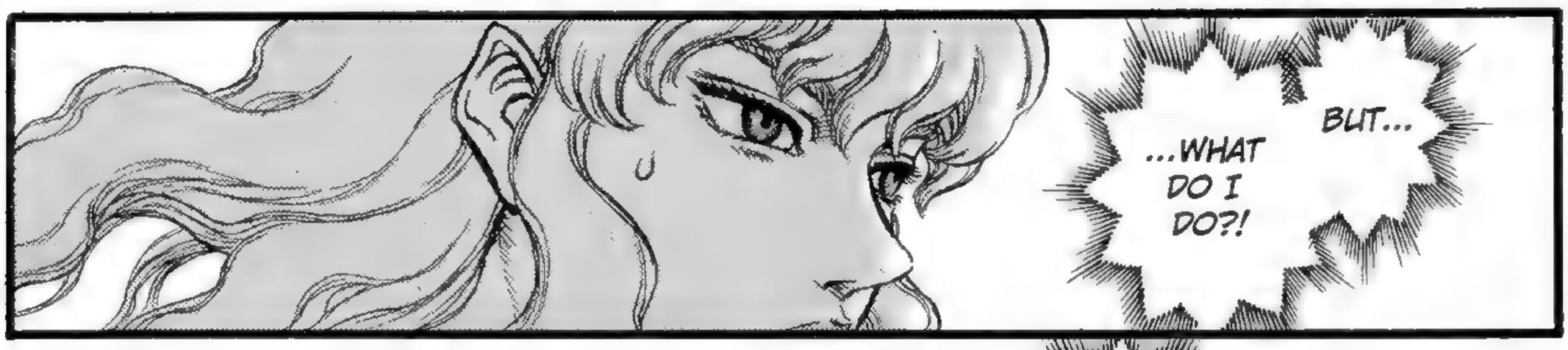
...YOU CAN'T.

YOU CAN'T!!

I WON'T HAVE IT!!

I WON'T LET YOU!!

...WHAT DO I DO?!
BUT...


HIS SPEED AND POWER...
...ARE NOTHING LIKE THEY USED TO BE.
...MUST COME IN THE FIRST STRIKE.
VICTORY...
AND ALL THIS SNOW...
I'M NOT SURE I CAN PARRY HIS ATTACK ANYMORE.
...MIGHT HINDER MY MOVEMENTS.
IF I CAN, MY SWORD STILL WON'T LAST PAST TWO OR THREE STRIKES.

THE INSTANT HIS BLADE FALLS...

...AND SLICE INTO THE TOP OF HIS SHOULDER!!

...I'LL DEFLECT IT...

THERE'S NO OTHER TECHNIQUE I CAN USE TO BEAT HIM NOW... IF SUCCESSFUL, EVEN GUTS WOULDN'T ESCAPE UNHARMED.

MY SPEED AND TIMING CAN'T BE OFF EVEN SLIGHTLY... IT'S A STRIKE I WON'T BE ABLE TO CONSTRAIN.

NO. IF IN THE INSTANT OUR SWORDS MEET, THE PRESSURE FROM HIS ALTERS THE ARC OF MINE EVEN JUST A LITTLE...

...I MIGHT REALLY KILL HIM!!

EVEN THEN...

IF I CAN'T HAVE HIM...!!

ドドド

I DON'T CARE!!

GOOD!!

?!

WOW ...!!

SO SUDDENLY...?!

!

DEFLECT IT AND ...?!

GRIFFITH!!

ハッ。

TAKE CARE...

GRIF-FITH...

.....
.....

...

GU--

ギュ…

GUTS…

GUTS REALLY LEFT US... WITHOUT EVEN LOOKING BACK.

SNFF

DAMMIT!! I WON'T ACCEPT THIS!!

IT'S...A FLUKE...IT HAD TO BE.

...
...

.....
.....

...IS MORE DISTANT... FARTHER OFF.

THE PLACE YOU WANT TO GO...

SO...IT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU'LL STAND UP.

IT'S PETTY... A SMALL THING.

IT'S LIKE STUMBLING ON A ROCK ON THE ROADSIDE.

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

AND YOU'LL START WALKING.

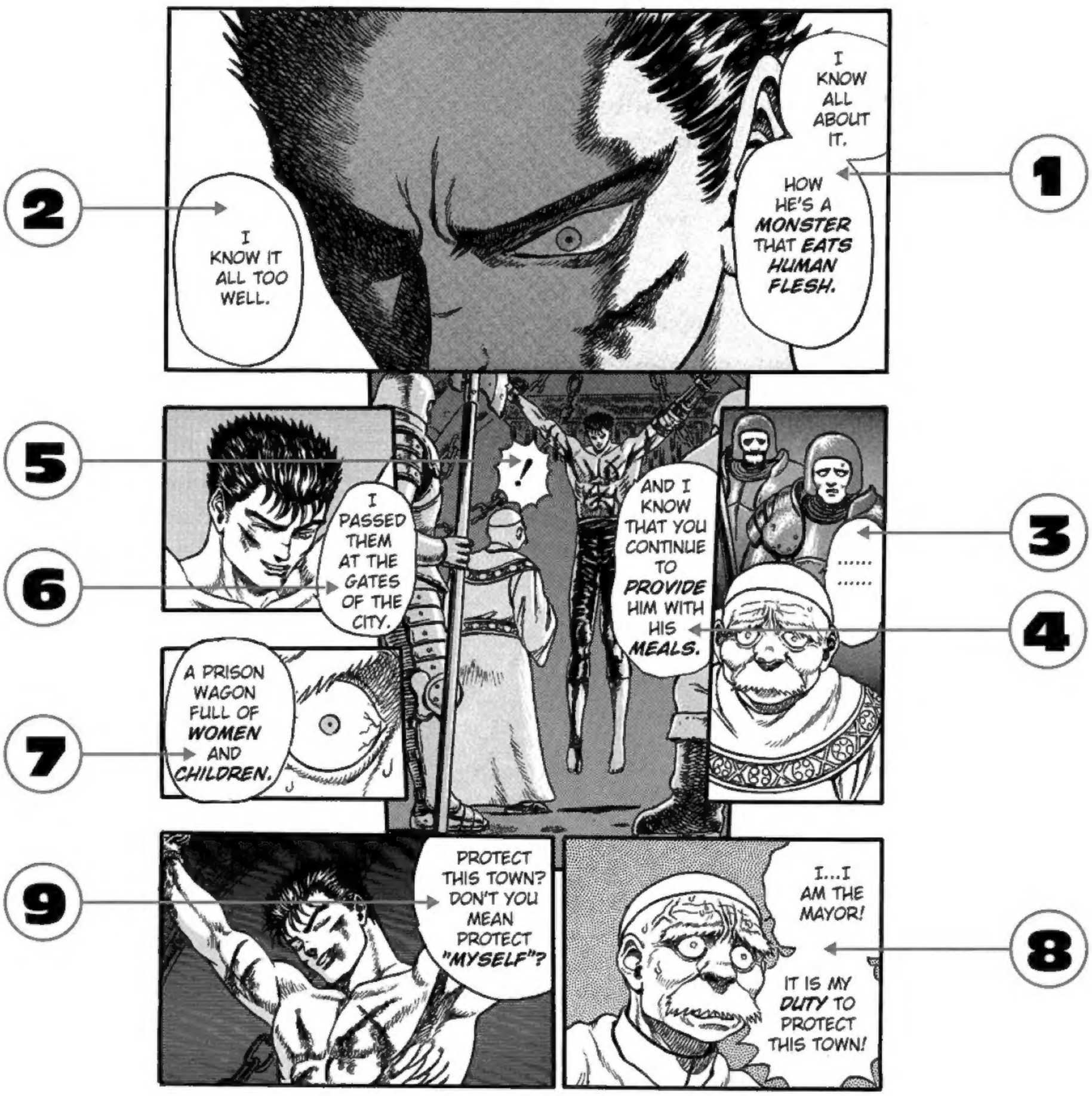
SOON...

THE MORNING DEPARTURE (3): END

STOP

This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format at the creator's request, maintaining the artwork's visual orientation as originally published in Japan. If you've never read manga in this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right corner and will read each balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take some getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun!


1
I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT.
HOW HE'S A *MONSTER* THAT *EATS HUMAN FLESH.*
2
I KNOW IT ALL TOO WELL.
3
.....
.....
AND I KNOW THAT YOU CONTINUE TO *PROVIDE* HIM WITH HIS *MEALS.*
4
5
I PASSED THEM AT THE GATES OF THE CITY.
6
7
A PRISON WAGON FULL OF *WOMEN* AND *CHILDREN.*
8
I...I AM THE MAYOR!
IT IS MY *DUTY* TO PROTECT THIS TOWN!
9
PROTECT THIS TOWN? DON'T YOU MEAN PROTECT *"MYSELF"?*

COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS / MANGA / HORROR

BERSERK

KENTARO MIURA 8

ベルセルク 三浦建太郎

The century-spanning war between Midland and Chuder continues unabated. The two warring kingdoms, vying for supremacy, launch headfirst into what will become the final battle. Spearheading the Midland forces are the Band of the Hawk, led by the charismatic Griffith, with the fearless Guts as his trusted champion. Should the Hawks triumph again on the battlefield, the war with Chuder may end, but the secret war within Midland may begin as those who seek to rise within the court see the ambitious Griffith as an obstacle to obtaining power. And nothing is more formidable than an enemy unseen!

Created by Kentaro Miura, *Berserk* is medieval manga mania at its bloodstained best, a volatile concoction of raging action, abyssal horror, and graveyard humor that has the initiates lining up for more and the faint hearted heading for the hills. Thank you, sir, may I have another!

This collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format, as originally published.

DARK HORSE MANGA

DarkHorse.com

FOR READERS 18+
FOR MATURE READERS